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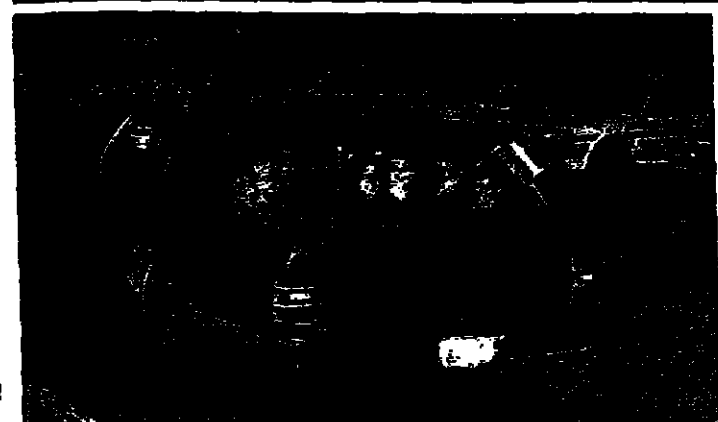
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NO. 7803 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990/RAJAB 30, 1410 AH 24 PAGES 150 FILLS



Cheerful children waving the Kuwaiti flag. (Photo by Mohammad Bedaq)

Low key celebration but people rejoice

THOUSANDS of people took to the streets and enjoyed a day out on the beach and parks as Kuwait yesterday marked the 29th National Day with low key official celebration.

No official ceremony was held in Kuwait City but official festivities were organised in outlying suburbs like Failaka and Ahmadi.

The waterfront, which normally wears a barren look during the day, was crowded with families, of all nationalities; not many people were in a hurry to get home, including motorists who, surprisingly, had slowed down despite clear roads. Children played on the beach and the young were drove around streets, with music blaring from their car stereos and singing to, perhaps, express their emo-

tions. In the morning, official celebrations with folklore dance and music were held in Failaka Island under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. In mid-afternoon, Kuwaitis and residents thronged to the parks where folklore troupes performed in the Gamal Abdul Nasser Park in Fintas and Failaka Island.

In Ahmadi, hundreds of people took part in the "Habibi Al Kuwait" (My Darling, Kuwait) marathon, organised by the Ahmadi Governorate.

HH the Amir received a cable of congratulations from HH the Crown Prince, Sheikh Saad, who on behalf of the government pledged to continue working under the present leadership. Replying to the

premier's cable, the Amir has urged "all Kuwaitis to exert more effort toward their country's unity", Kuna reported.

The Amir of Kuwait received cables of congratulations from the heads of state of several Arab and Islamic states.

The 12-day official celebration, which began on Feb 17, seem to have given the young men to give vent to their pent up emotions. Over the past few days, the Arabian Gulf Street has been the scene of traffic jams and some rather unusual expressions like young men spraying paint and shaving foam on passers and cars.

(Continued on Page 11)

King Hussein due

KUWAIT, Feb 25, (Kuna): King Hussein of Jordan will pay a working visit to Kuwait tomorrow within the framework of his latest tour that covered Saudi Arabia and Iraq, official sources said here tonight.

The sources told Kuna that Hussein will hold talks with his Highness the Amir on ways to boost joint Arab work to confront challenges facing the Arab nation.

The visit comes a day after the conclusion of the Arab Co-operation Council summit in Amman.

Jewish danger

UAE Crown Prince calls for new Opec quota

By Mohammed Zein
Editor, Al Seyassah

THE President of the United Arab Emirates, the government and its people believe that the Jewish immigration to Israel, is one of the most dangerous turning points in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1967, the Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme

Such unchecked Jewish immigration will lead to a dangerous imbalance in the population in favour of Israel, allowing it to annex the remaining parts of the Arab occupied lands.

He specifically commented that "emerging from its expansionist nature, Israel is looking to annex more Arab territories in the same manner that the Jewish immigration in the 30s and 40s of this century established the Jewish state in Palestine in 1948.

On oil quotas, Sheikh Khalifa said that the UAE has hesitantly worked for unity of Opec and for the stability of the oil market and had undergone quite a number of sacrifices. However, he said: "We are waiting for other members to share with us this sacrifice" and for the moment we believe that we have become victims of all the agreements on oil production quotas. "It has now become unacceptable for us after the latest Opec agreements to continue to bear these sacrifices alone and adversely affect our oil relations in the international market."

"We are looking forward to a new Opec quota accord that will reflect the UAE's natural size."

(See Page 10)

Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahayan said.

In an exclusive wide-ranging interview with the Arab Times/Al Seyassah, Sheikh Nahayan added that the immigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine does not only threaten the occupied Arab lands of Palestine, but the rest of the Arab world as well.

100,000 Soviets rally for democracy



Lt Gen. Bagdanov looks on from a rooftop as tens of thousands of demonstrators rally in Moscow. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Gorbachev go!'

Protesters demand radical changes

MOSCOW, Feb 25, (Agencies): More than 100,000 pro-democracy demonstrators rallied peacefully today in the Soviet capital and smaller protests occurred in other cities, but activists said government intimidation held down participation.

Officials had warned all week that the Soviet Union's first nationwide protest could explode in violence, and security forces were deployed in most cities where major demonstrations were scheduled.

Gavril Popov, a member of the Congress of People's Deputies and one of the demonstration day organizers, told the crowd gathered beneath cloudy skies in Moscow that the Communist Party and government had engineered a campaign of fear to try to stifle the protests.

The rallies throughout the Soviet Union showed "that the people's vision of perestroika (reforms) and the vision of the leadership have begun to differ widely," Popov said.

The outdoor rally in Moscow failed to match a huge demonstration on Feb 4 that led to the call for a nationwide show of support for democratic reform.

One column today was led by a man with a bullhorn telling police and bystanders, "we represent no danger." But the size of the crowd grew through the afternoon as the initial tension gave way to a more relaxed and good-natured atmosphere.

Banners and slogans carried by many marchers called for the departure of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev as well as that of his conservative Politburo rival Yegor Ligachev.

In Moscow one speaker, who was not identified, proclaimed over a microphone on the main inner ring road in front of the Foreign Ministry: "This demonstration has been called to demand the resignation of the (party) central committee and the Politburo so that the country can elect a leadership democratically."

Meanwhile, from the northern and southern ends of the Soviet Union, independence moves by non-Russian nationalities gathered pace.

"We have been subjected to two weeks of intimidation and threats from the authorities through the official media," radical parliamentary deputy Yuri Afanasyev told the chanting demonstrators in Moscow, referring to officials' calls for Muscovites to stay away from rallies.

"But we are here in good spirits to demand from the leadership of the country the radical changes that our society needs to bring it into the community of modern, civilised states," Afanasyev, a Communist Party member, declared.

Thousands of uniformed police and internal security troops guarded the authorized march route along the broad garden ring road that encircles the city center. Sand-filled dump trucks, water trucks and snowplows sealed off all roads leading from the garden ring road into the downtown area, where the Kremlin and Red Square were guarded by more police posted about every 10 metres (yards).

In some parts of the country, the warnings and official attempts to restrain demonstrations clearly held down the turnout.

Only about 8,000 demonstrators

showed up at the officially authorized rally site in Leningrad, the nation's second city, after leaders of the People's Front movement called on their followers to boycott the event when authorities refused them permission to demonstrate in a downtown street.

Riot police who far outnumbered a small group that did try to demonstrate downtown without official permission broke up the attempt and dragged would-be protesters aboard waiting buses.

About 2,000 were said to have gathered in the central Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, but activists there said many people went to the wrong places because state-controlled media had refused to report any plans for the rally.

Moscow organizers said they had received telegrams reporting rallies in about a dozen other cities, from Khabarovsk in the Soviet Far East through the Siberian towns of Irkutsk and Novosibirsk west to Minsk and Stavropol.

An hour before the rally at the sports complex in Leningrad, about a dozen activists in the Democratic Union, a radical group fighting to end the Communist Party's grip on power, gathered on a square outside the young spectators theater.

As a column of 100 people surrounded the crowd and KGB plainclothes agents stood by, an officer approached and shouted through a megaphone that no demonstration was authorized.

A dozen riot police wearing white helmets and green bullet-proof vests then stormed in and dragged away several of the activists.

Security first, Cup later

KUWAIT, Feb 25, (AP): Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, the Chairman of the Higher Organising committee of the Arab Gulf Cup Soccer tournament being played here, threatened today to cancel the games if Kuwait's security was affected.

Sheikh Fahd, who is also the chairman of Kuwait Football Association and Kuwait Olympic Committee, was talking to local reporters a day after Kuwaiti and Omani players exchanged punches during their match and an anti-riot policeman knocked an Omani player unconscious with a club.

One Kuwaiti paper urged that the policeman be punished. Sheikh Fahd accused the two Omani players of losing their temper.

"Security and discipline in Kuwait should be given top priority," said Sheikh Fahd. "We will not compromise our

dignity and security even if the Gulf tournament is cancelled...such behaviour is foreign to international soccer matches."

Defending the Kuwaiti policeman, Sheikh Fahd said: "The policeman did not want violence or to beat the players, but were obliged to do so in light of the irresponsible act of players who tried to attack policeman."

The referee, George Orellana of Ecuador, dismissed Nasser Ghanim of Kuwait and Omani player Nasser Khamis in the second half after they exchanged punches. Kuwaiti security forces circled the Omani team after the match ended to protect the referee, threatened by Omani players and administrators.

The captain of the Omani team Hilal Hamood tried to escape the circle and hit one of the Kuwaiti special forces personnel with his elbow, thus drawing a reaction from him," a local daily recounted.

Rebels vow to topple Aquino Cory raps Enrile

MANILA, Feb 25, (AP): President Corazon Aquino, marking the fourth anniversary of her rise to power, vowed today never to allow a return to dictatorship and accused rival Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile of plotting against her.

"I shall never allow us to go back to that (dictatorial) system," Aquino told an estimated 30,000 people at ceremonies marking the February 1986 uprising that toppled the late Ferdinand Marcos.

"No matter how great the threats are, we will thwart their dark plans," said Aquino, who has survived six armed attempts to topple her government, most recently in December.

She called on Filipinos to "be vigilant" of mutinous soldiers who might try to stage another coup attempt.

In the speech, Aquino denounced Enrile for allegedly attempting to rewrite the history of the Feb 22-25, 1986, "people power" uprising.

The rebellion began with a military mutiny, led by then defence minister Enrile, which grew when hundreds of thousands of civilians poured into the streets to protect mutineers from Marcos' tanks. Aquino said in a separate radio interview that the alliance with Enrile's followers had been a "shotgun marriage" that fell apart because of plots against her.

Last Friday, Enrile "apologised" for having helped install Aquino. Enrile was fired as defence minister in November 1986 after a failed coup by his followers.

"Never have I heard of such a thing as an 'Enrile power' revolution," Aquino told the cheering crowd. "I will talk to Mr Enrile or his minions if they are listening: Mr Enrile, have you no shame?"

She said that without popular support, Enrile and his fellow mutineers would have been crushed by Marcos and that the opposition senator "gets very nervous in a crisis."



Aquino waves to a crowd during a rally in Manila. At left is former president Diosdado Macapagal and House Speaker Ramon Mitra. (Reuters wirephoto)

"Be a man," she said. "Or better yet, be a woman."

She thanked the people for their support, saying: "Without you, Enrile could have harmed me and I would not be president now. You did not abandon me."

Aquino called Enrile "the great kibitzer" who "wanted to grab the ball as soon as his team was losing and be team captain himself," a reference to his abandoning Marcos in 1986.

Army rebels of the "Reform the Armed Forces Movement" which helped force Marcos into exile repeated past pledges to try and oust her.

An army major with a 300,000 peso (\$13,600) bounty for alleged involvement in the December failed coup has surrendered to authorities, a military report said today.

Maj. Lyle Tugbang surrendered Tuesday night to members of security group, the report said.

(See Page 5)

Kashmir women stage protest

SRINAGAR, Feb 25, (UPI): About 25,000 Muslim women, some wearing white funeral shrouds to symbolise their readiness for death, today rode buses, cars and trucks through Srinagar on the third straight day of major demonstrations for independence for Kashmir.

There were no reports of violence from any portion of the Kashmir valley, the main population centre of Kashmir and the focal point of a popular uprising against Indian rule supported by virtually all 3 million residents of the predominantly Muslim region.

Women and girls from major towns in the valley converged on Srinagar for a march to the headquarters of a UN military observers group that monitors the 1949 ceasefire line of the first war between India and Pakistan, which both claim Kashmir.

About 25,000 participants crammed into cars, taxis, buses and trucks, many flying the flag of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the leading underground separatist group engineering the pro-independence movement.

The protesters included elderly women in Islamic body cloaks, college students and young girls. They shouted "war until victory," "we do not want East or West, we want only Islam" and "we want freedom" as they proceeded through the city, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, 400 miles (640 km) north of New Delhi.

"With our brothers in Kashmir, we are also in the streets," said 22-year-old Ratooba Shah. "Either we have freedom or we die as martyrs."

About 100 young women wore long white Muslim funeral shrouds to demonstrate their

(Continued on Page 2)

Lahore firing 'Hit' fails

LAHORE, Feb 25, (Reuters): Gunmen fired at the house of a Pakistani government minister today in the second violent incident in the Punjab province capital, Lahore, in two days, government officials said.

Manpower Minister Ghulam Mohammad Maneka was inside his house when the attack occurred in the early hours of the day, they said. The gunmen fled when the minister's guards fired back.

On Saturday, unknown gunmen in four cars sprayed bullets in a Lahore market, killing one man and wounding eight. Police called it an act of sabotage.

Maneka left the opposition alliance last November.

Weather

CLOUDY weather with light to moderate northerly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 1.00 pm
Low water: 7.00 am, 7.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.18 am
Sunset: 5.45 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 20°C 68°F
Ahmadi: 17°C 63°F
Failaka: 18°C 64°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 7°C 41°F
Ahmadi: 10°C 50°F
Failaka: 8°C 46°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 19°C 66°F
Ahmadi: 17°C 63°F
Failaka: 18°C 64°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 85 per cent
Ahmadi: 62 per cent
Failaka: 57 per cent



Pertini (left) with US President George Bush.



Forbes

Pertini and Forbes die

ROME, Feb 25, (Agencies): The death today of ex-president Sandro Pertini, one of Italy's best-loved leaders, plunged the country into mourning for a former anti-fascist fighter who brought a warm, human touch to Italy's highest office.

In New York, Malcolm Forbes, colourful publisher of the business magazine that bears his name and an unabashed proponent of capitalism in all its form, died of a heart attack in his sleep yesterday at his home. He was 70.

Large crowds of Italians stood silently, some weeping, outside Pertini's modest home near Rome's Trevi Fountain. He died of old age, in his sleep, at the age of 93.

See Forbes — Page 3; Pertini — Page 7

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Campaign ends for Indian state polls

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Feb 25: Campaigning ended today in India for Tuesday's elections to choose new legislative assemblies in eight states and one union territory in a crucial electoral battle that will largely determine the future course of Indian politics.

Apart from the individuals involved, there can be little doubt that the outcome of the elections will significantly shape the fortunes of the country's three main political parties — the Janata Dal, the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party.

For the Congress, still licking its wounds after being ousted from power at the centre in last November's general elections, it has virtually become a struggle for survival. The party is in

power in all the states going to the polls, and another defeat could spell the doom for the country's largest and oldest political party.

The elections will also be a sort of referendum on the performance of the National Front government, of which the Janata Dal headed by Prime Minister V.P. Singh is the single largest constituent.

And amidst all this, the elections will show whether the BJP, playing from a position of strength after the 86 seats it won in the Lok Sabha poll, succeeds in its bid to acquire power in at least five states — Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

The assembly elections are being held less than three months after the general elections and will be the acid test for both Singh and his predecessor Rajiv Gandhi. A victory in at least some of the states

would come as a big morale booster for the Congress and Rajiv personally.

Serious doubts have been raised by some of his partymen about Rajiv's leadership qualities and vote-catching abilities. A loss in Tuesday's elections could spark off either an internal revolt in the party or large-scale desertions.

Spirits in the Congress camp cannot be very high on the eve of the polls, considering the fact that they have already been humiliated and lost power in Manipur, which on Feb 12 became the first Indian state to hold elections after the Lok Sabha poll.

Last Friday, Rajkumar Ranbir Singh was sworn in as Chief Minister of the north-eastern Indian state at the head of a six-party coalition government. Ranbir Singh belongs to the Manipur People's Party, a regional group, whose coalition partners

include the Janata Dal the Congress (S) and the CPI. The combined opposition front won 32 out of the 58 seats for which elections were held, leaving the Congress with just 26.

The states where elections will be held on Tuesday are Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Orissa, along with the union territory of Pondicherry. A record number of more than 21,300 candidates are in the fray for 16,111 seats with a total electorate of about 215 million people.

Elections will be held for 324 seats in Bihar, 319 in Madhya Pradesh, 288 in Maharashtra, 199 in Rajasthan, 182 in Gujarat, 147 in Orissa, 65 in Himachal Pradesh, 57 in Arunachal Pradesh and 30 in Pondicherry.

In view of the large scale violence witnessed

during the November elections and the incidents during the poll in Manipur last week, the authorities have made elaborate security arrangements to ensure the peaceful conduct of polling this week. More than 500 companies of para-military forces will be deployed in the various states, in addition to the local police.

Three Congress (I) candidates have already been returned unopposed to the 60-member assembly in Arunachal Pradesh, elections have been postponed in three constituencies of Himachal Pradesh because they will stay snow-bound till May. Elections in Tizara in Rajasthan and Damoh in Madhya Pradesh have been countermanded because of the deaths of candidates.

Many stalwarts are in the fray for Tuesday's poll. They include several chief ministers like Sharad

Pawar (Maharashtra), Madhavsinh Solanki (Gujarat), Gogoi (Assam), Hemant Chaudhary (Orissa), Shyam Charan Shukla (Madhya Pradesh), Heride Joshi (Rajasthan), Jagannath Mishra (Bihar), Vir Bhadra Singh (Himachal Pradesh) and M.O.H. Farooqi (Pondicherry).

Other prominent leaders in the contest are former chief ministers Amarsingh Chaudhary and Chimanbhai Patel (Gujarat), Arjun Singh (Madhya Pradesh), Ram Lal (Himachal), Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (Rajasthan) and Nandini Satpathy (Orissa), former Orissa chief minister J.B. Patnaik, considered a strongman in his state, has opted out of the polls this time.

Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala is seeking a seat in the state assembly in a by-election in Meham.

Women protest in Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

readiness for personal sacrifice.

The processionists sang a popular martial song that was played repeatedly by Radio Pakistan during the 1965 Indo-Pakistani war and included the lyrics: "Wake Up, the Time For Your Martyrdom Has Come, Wake Up in the Name of Allah."

At the UN offices, the protesters presented a single-page memorandum urging the international organisation to take up the issue of Kashmir, which India contends is an internal matter.

The memorandum asked the United Nations to 'show your supremacy all over the world by solving the Kashmir issue on humanitarian grounds at the earliest without any further bloodshed.'

More than 100 people, most of them protesters shot by security forces, have died since a pro-independence movement exploded into the anti-India uprising on Jan 20, ignited by the shooting of demonstrators.

Authorities have managed to keep the lid on the insurrection only by deploying tens of thousands of combat-ready troops and police across the Kashmir valley. Security forces have largely remained passive bystanders during major anti-India demonstrations staged daily in Srinagar since Friday.

Nepal cracks down

Massive arrests as police thwarts demo bid

KATHMANDU, Feb 25: (Agencies): Riot police moved in and arrested black-flag waving protesters when they arrived on the capital's main shopping district to begin a planned march for multiparty democracy today.

Activists said at least 1,000 people were taken into custody, mostly in the capital, as hundreds of riot policemen patrolled the streets to enforce a government ban on political demonstrations.

Witnesses said they saw at least 150 militants arrested when they came out in threes and fours waving black flags and shouting "long live the revolution" from buildings in the new road district — a maze of

shops, houses, restaurants and tourist lodges built around the king's former palace.

The government refused comment on the arrests. Tension ran high as hundreds of steel-helmeted police officers and plainclothesmen patrolled the 3-square-kilometre (2-square-mile) area, watched by throngs of tourists and some reporters.

The planned march was part of nation-wide demonstrations called by two banned political groups to demand restoration of multiparty democracy in the Himalayan kingdom, one of the world's oldest monarchies.

Pakistan denies Rights abuses

ISLAMABAD, Feb 25: (Reuters): The Pakistan government has rejected US charges of human rights abuses and called a State Department report an attempt to malign the people of Pakistan.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government took serious exception to the report, calling it "a classical example of disinformation," a government statement said.

The State Department's annual report on human rights, released last week, sharply criticised Pakistan.

It said police commonly tortured people in custody, religious minorities faced discrimination and officials controlled newspapers, television and radio suppressed news about the opposi-

tion. It was the second time in a week that Pakistan has been angered by Washington.

Last week the State Department said safeguards demanded by France as a condition for selling a nuclear power plant to Pakistan were insufficient.

The human rights report cited 19 people who died in police custody. The government said since Benazir took office in 1988 as Pakistan's first democratically elected prime minister in 11 years, all political prisoners had been released.

It also rejected allegations of news management, a long-standing complaint among opposition leaders who say they get virtually no coverage on state-controlled television.

Sind CM resigns

ISLAMABAD, Feb 25: (Kuna): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has accepted the resignation of Syed Qaim Ali Shah, the chief minister of Sind, the strife torn southern province of Pakistan, Pakistan Peoples Party sources said last night.

These sources said that Shah tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

An official spokesman in Karachi, who announced the resignation last night, did not say the reason for Shah to resign from the post which he held for about 15 months.

PPP sources said that a majority of members of the Sind assembly, during their meetings with Benazir in the last two days, had expressed dismay and disappointment at the performance of Shah as chief minister, especially his "inept handling" of the crime situation in the province, notably in Karachi and other major cities.



Dhaka University students carry the body of Shahidul Islam Chinnu who was killed in a campus gunbattle (Reuters wirephoto)

Two killed in Dhaka University violence

DHAKA, Feb 25: (AP): Rival student political groups fired pistols and sawed-off shotguns and hurled homemade bombs at each other at Dhaka University today, killing at least two people and wounding 12, police witnesses said.

Vice-Chancellor Abdul Mannan said the university was being closed indefinitely from tomorrow and students in the 13 dormitories have been asked to leave the campus by tonight.

The fighting erupted when supporters of two opposition parties, the Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, tried to conduct rallies at the same place at the same time. The parties called the rallies to protest attacks on each other's supporters last Wednesday when 40 people were injured.

Hours after the university clash, Awami League supporters hurled stones and damaged about 12 vehicles in front of the Awami League office in central Dhaka. In the university, demonstrators fired at least 100 rounds of ammunition and threw a series of small bombs during the 40-minute clash, according to policemen who

spoke on condition of anonymity. Police fired rifles in the air and tear-gas to break up the fighting but said no one was injured by their fire.

Shahidul Islam Chinnu, a leader of the Bangladesh Students League which is affiliated with the Awami League, was shot in the forehead and died instantly, police said.

The identity of another slain student was not immediately known.

Campus rallies frequently turn violent in Bangladesh. Wednesday's trouble started during commemorations marking the anniversary of the deaths in 1952 of people who are known as "the language martyrs." The 1952 killings by police occurred during a demonstration to make Bangla an official language in the then East Pakistan.

The Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party both oppose the government of President Hussain Muhammad Ershad, but supporters of the two parties often clash.

'I would hang Nicu by his tongue'

Nadia's life of terror

BUCHAREST, Feb 25: (Reuters): Champion gymnast Nadia Comaneci was repeatedly beaten and had her finger nails torn out during a bizarre five-year relationship with the megalomaniac son of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, her mother said today.

"I would like to hang him by his tongue and watch him die," said Alexandrina Comaneci, whose daughter captivated the world by winning three gold medals and scoring perfect 10 at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

The mother's candidate for such a gruesome and lingering death, Nicu Ceausescu, is now awaiting trial on genocide charges. Beaten and stabbed by his revolutionary captors, Nicu, 39, is considered fortunate to have escaped his parents' fate — execution by firing squad.

Alexandrina revealed details of the relationship between her daughter and Nicu in an interview with Reuters.

Speaking in Romanian through an interpreter, Alexandrina said Nicu dominated her daughter "body and soul" over a five-year period which culminated with Nadia's much-publicised escape from Romania to the United States only weeks before the revolution.

Nadia's ordeal included: ■ Having her fingernails pulled out during a visit to Nicu's home.

■ Receiving repeated blows to her face, body and thighs.

■ Being displayed to Nicu's cronies as his personal property.

■ Being expected to visit Nicu on demand at any time of the day or night.



Alexandrina Comaneci. (Reuters wirephoto)

■ Having her wages stopped on Nicu's orders so that she would be even more dependent on him.

"Nicu used Nadia as a toy, as a plaything, for his own entertainment. Can you imagine what her life must have been like with that son of a bitch?" said Alexandrina.

She said Nicu first became obsessed with Nadia, now 28, when she was the country's leading sports personality in the 1970s.

After Nicolae Ceausescu appointed his son youth minister in 1981, Nicu employed Nadia as a gymnastics coach and choreographer.

"Nadia was soon at Nicu's mercy. After she retired from competitive gymnastics she needed work. She was also short of money because all her earnings had been used by the Ceausescu family."

"He began telephoning her at home and calling on our house in a drunken state. Then he began threatening her and had her pay stopped."

"Nadia refused his advances repeatedly but eventually was unable to say no."

"Nicu refused to allow her to discuss their relationship with anybody. He didn't allow to think for herself as a woman or to have any friends."

When Nicu called, Nadia was forced to drive 300 km (180 miles) to the central city of Sibiu, where Nicu was regional Communist Party chief.

"After one of her visits to Sibiu she showed me bruises on her thighs when she came home."

"On another occasion she came back from visiting Nicu with her fingernails torn out. Nadia told me that this had been caused by an infection because she didn't want me to be upset."

Alexandrina said that by 1988 Nadia had become withdrawn and miserable. She moved out of the family home and went to live with her brother Adrian.

Nadia's life of terror with Nicu continued until eventually she could bear it no more and made plans to escape, said Alexandrina.

Nadia has telephoned her mother and written several letters in the last few weeks.

"She sounded happy and carefree and said she would like to visit Bucharest soon," said Alexandrina.

Asked how she would like to see Nicu punished, Alexandrina's eyes narrowed as she pondered for a few moments.

"When I think of the ordeal she went through ... when I think of her body blue with bruises from head to toe."

"I would like him to suffer as she did. I would hang him by his tongue and watch him die ... no ordinary death would be good enough for that man."

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5th Prize: VC-790ET Sharp's 4 head Super multi system VCR 6th Prize: SJ-438-K-2 door Refrigerator, large capacity, no-frost 7th Prize: System-302X (BK) Compact Disc Stereo Music System with 36-key multi-function remote control 8th Prize: R-7H10 Microwave Oven with sensor touch 9th Prize: IQ-7000 + IQ-703A Electronic Organizer + Translator card 10th Prize: ES-45-W4T Auto Washing Machine 11th Prize: DX-R770X Compact Disc Player with remote control 12-26th Prize: WQ-T212 (BK) 20W Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder 27-50th Prize: QT-249Z (BK) Stylish Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder 51-76th Prize: JC-515 (BK) Mini size AM/FM Headphone Stereo 77-101 Prize: EL-6060 Card size Memo Master

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Tycoon Forbes dies in sleep

Leaves \$1 billion estate

NEW YORK, Feb 25, (Agencies): Malcolm Forbes, colourful publisher of the business magazine that bears his name and an unabashed proponent of capitalism in all its forms, died of a heart attack in his sleep yesterday at his home, a spokesman for the magazine said. He was 70.

Forbes was pronounced dead yesterday afternoon at his home in New Jersey, said the spokesman, William Donald Garson, director of corporate communications for Forbes Inc.

Forbes, known for his motorcycles, luxury parties and balloon flights, had returned last morning from a trip to London, Garson said.

Chairman and chief shareholder of Forbes Inc., Forbes' worth has been estimated at from \$400 million to \$1 billion by various sources.



Forbes and Elizabeth Taylor shown together at his 70th birthday party in Morocco last year. (Reuters wirephoto)



Forbes photographed on his motorbike. (Reuters wirephoto)

Experts value his company's flagship business magazine as high as \$600 million, while its American Heritage magazine, suburban newspaper, real estate and art holdings add \$100 million or more.

Forbes Magazine was founded by Malcolm Forbes' father B. C., a Scottish immigrant who made his fortune on Wall Street. On Dec 31, the Los Angeles Times reported that Forbes' eldest son, Steve, would inherit 51 per cent of the voting control of the Forbes empire.

But he might also inherit a potential tax nightmare, the paper reported. State and federal taxes on big estates are levied at about 55 per cent and the 1987 tax reform closed loopholes that had based the burden on family businesses.

In addition to Steve and his former wife, Roberta Laidlaw, survivors include sons Robert, Christopher and Timothy, a daughter, Moria Mumma, a brother, Wallace and eight grandchildren.

Forbes' 39-year marriage ended in divorce in 1985.

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"Forbes was the Babe Ruth of business publishing," said George Steinbrenner, principal owner of the New York Yankees, through a spokesman. "He made his mark through integrity, a toughness and wonderful sense of humour. 'We'll miss him'."

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LOS ANGELES: Actress Mariel Hemingway and other celebrities upset about aerial pesticide spraying against the medfly were among hundreds of protesters demanding a halt to the overhead dustings.

Actor John Ratzenberger, who appears on the television series "Cheers," and actress Allyce Beasley, from the programme "Moonlighting," also turned out for a demonstration Monday at the federal building.

"It seems those politicians with a head-in-the-sand attitude are building a gallows with this issue, and I'm more than happy to be standing up there with the rope," Ratzenberger said.

The state is spraying large areas of Los Angeles and Orange counties to wipe out the worst infestation of the crop-destroying bug since 1981-82. Helicopters drop a mixture of the pesticide malathion and sticky corn syrup bait.

Lea Spangy, agriculture commissioner for Los Angeles county, has repeatedly said the spraying is safe. He says it will be stopped when the state can find enough sterile medflies to stall breeding. (AP)

CHARLESTON, West Virginia: Buckling up your car seat belts may pay off some day in West Virginia.

West Virginia state Senator Ned Jones has introduced a bill that would give police officers the authority to hand out lottery tickets to belt-wearing motorists.

The bill, introduced Monday, would exclude drunken drivers or motorists who violate the speed limit by more than 10 miles an hour.

It would be up to the state police to determine how to dole out the lottery tickets, which would not be awarded unless everyone in an auto had their seat belts on.

The legislature recently voted down a bill to require motorists to wear seat belts. Jones said his approach is just the ticket.

"Now we're just the carrot instead of the stick," he said. (AP)

ROCHESTER, New York: A man sitting in his living room was shot and killed by a burglar who walked through the floor of the apartment above his, police said.

Vernon Russell, 76, was shot Tuesday, said Police Commander Michael Murray. Clifton Jackson, 52, who lives in the apartment above Russell's, was charged with second-degree manslaughter, police said.

Jackson pleaded innocent before Gates Town Justice John Pissano. He was sent to the Monroe county jail in lieu of bail.

There was no dispute between the neighbours, and Jackson did not intend to shoot Russell, Murray said. He declined to say why the firearm was pointed at the floor. (AP)

Lagos, Nigeria: Nigeria's high court has banned the publication or sale of the memoirs of former leader General Olusegun Obasanjo.

The injunction, issued Monday and published Tuesday, came at the request of Judge Tassim Elias, a judge of the International Court of Justice in The Hague who is suing Obasanjo for alleged libel in the book, "Not My Will".

Elias alleges the publication portrays him as incompetent in managing Nigeria's judicial affairs while chief justice of this West African nation in the 1970s.

He is claiming \$15 million in damages from the retired general, whose book outlines events in Nigeria under his leadership from 1976 to 1979.

Obasanjo returned Nigeria to civilian rule, but it lasted only until 1983, when elected civilian President Shagari was ousted by the military. The present leader Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, has promised a return to civilian rule in 1992. (AP)

HONG KONG: Five men hijacked a van at Hong Kong airport and escaped with 2,500 watches worth \$3.3 million, police reported.

Police said the robbers, two of whom appeared to be armed with pistols, committed the robbery after the vehicle had been loaded with 40 boxes of watches at the cargo handling area.

Police gave the following report: The robbers tied up two security guards and the driver and drove the van to an open area where they transferred the boxes to another vehicle. They then drove off. The security guards managed to untie themselves and reported the robbery to police.

No one was injured in the Thursday hijack. (AP)

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts: Actor Kevin Costner says the man of the year honour from Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatre is one of his first awards, and he treats it "with more reverence than you might think."

Costner, who has starred in such films as "Bill Durham," "No Way Out," "The Untouchables," and "Field of Dreams," received the traditional Hasty Pudding Pot from the undergraduate theatrical group Tuesday, then fell right in with the college clowning.

The theatrical group said some of Costner's lesser known rules caught its attention.

"What first attracted our eye was the soul-searching in such films as 'Night Shift' and 'Stand By Me USA,'" joked Sharon Owing, a junior and one of the show's producers. (AP)

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Colombia leftists free US hostages

BOGOTA, Feb 25, (Reuters): Leftist guerrillas have freed two American hostages seized in protest against US President George Bush's visit to Colombia, police said.

James Arthur Donnelly, 62, an industrialist, and David Leslie Kent, 40, a teacher, were freed yesterday in mountains about 150 km (90 miles) northwest of the capital and were returned to the Medellín area, Donnelly said.

"We were treated fine all the time," he said by telephone. "As an American they didn't treat me bad at all, I was drinking Coca-Cola all day, and I was reading some books..."

The National Liberation Army (ELN) kidnapped Donnelly on February 12. Kent was abducted a day later, and they were held at the same camp, where Kent was allowed to receive treatment for hepatitis, Donnelly said.

The ELN had told local media the abductions were a protest against Bush's February 15 visit for an anti-drugs summit with leaders of cocaine-producing Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

Donnelly said the guerrillas voiced some anger at the United States but that he and Kent were released to convey the message that captured guerrillas should be treated humanely.

"(They) would like to have their guerrillas, when they were captured, treated under the Geneva Convention laws," the industrialist, whose wife is Colombian, said from his home in Guerne, near Medellín.

The rebels gave Donnelly a message for the Colombian government — that "the country's rich people will be punished if any more guerrillas disappear or if there are any more massacres of peasants."

Right-wing death squads have killed more than 1,000 persons in the last four years, many of them peasants who apparently were believed to be guerrilla sympathizers.

Kent conveyed a message to reporters saying the ELN would punish Colombia's "oligarchy" in the case of another massacre or "disappearance," apparently referring to action by government forces.



Several members of the Salvadoran High Command including the Chief of Staff Rene Emilio (left) pay their respects to ex-president Jose Napoleon Duarte. (Reuters wirephoto)

Salvador pays last respects to Duarte

Condolence pours in

SAN SALVADOR, Feb 25, (UPI): With condolences pouring in from around the world and a truce declared by the country's guerrillas, El Salvador prepared the funeral ceremonies for former president Jose Napoleon Duarte, who walked a tortured political road hoping to be remembered as the father of Salvadoran democracy.

Two Central American presidents and US Vice President Dan Quayle announced they plan to attend Sunday's funeral for Duarte, who died Friday after a long battle with cancer. Other delegations were still being formed.

Duarte, once beaten and exiled by the Salvadoran army, returned in 1979 and in 1984 became El Salvador's first freely elected president in 53 years.

The country's rebels, in a statement issued in Mexico City, called a two-day unilateral ceasefire beginning Saturday "in a gesture to promote understanding among the Salvadoran people and to expedite the expres-

sion of mourning among diverse national sectors and international figures."

The Salvadoran armed forces, however, downplayed the rebels' unilateral ceasefire. Hours later Salvadoran army accused the rebels of breaking their own self-proclaimed ceasefire.

5th Brigade commander Col Jesus Chavez Caceres claimed rebel forces had disregarded the truce and attacked military positions. The military officers said that during armed confrontation between the two sides, rebels killed Lt. Jose Raul Cortes and wounded 13 other troops. At the same time four rebels died and 10 others were wounded, he said.

Ines Guadalupe Duarte, the former president's oldest daughter, told United Press International that her mother received a call from US President George Bush and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain about a half an hour after Duarte's death Friday morning.

Ortega sees victory, better ties with US

Nicaraguans go to polls with hopes of peace

MANAGUA, Feb 25, (Agencies): Nicaraguans turned out early today at polling stations to choose between leftist President Daniel Ortega and the opposition conservative candidate, publisher Violeta Chamorro, with Ortega predicting a Sandinista victory and friendlier relations with United States.

Polling was orderly in Managua and the city was calm. Scores of uniformed soldiers of the Sandinista army lined up at a polling station near army headquarters in Managua. One of them, Victor Brenis, 38, said the vote was very important "to show imperial-

ism that we have a democracy here."

Ortega, standing for re-election for the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which has ruled for 10 years, was the first person to vote at a polling station near his house in central Managua.

Cheered by voters and mobbed by hundreds of journalists, Ortega said he was confident the Sandinistas would win the polls.

Ortega is running against La Prensa publisher Chamorro of the US-backed National Opposition Union, a centre-right coalition. She cast her vote later in the day.

"I am sure we Nicaraguans are all going to vote today in the conviction that with his vote we will bury the war, bury hatred and conquer peace to allow this country to go forward," she said.

An eight-year-old war against US-backed Contra rebels has killed 30,000 people and devastated the economy.

Ortega said he was ready to work with US President George Bush after the elections, and would invite Bush to his inauguration if he wins a new term as president.

Some 1.7 million people are registered to vote for president, vice-president, a new Parliament, and local councils. The presidential term is for six years.

Voters began lining up outside polling stations in the capital Managua hours before they opened at 7 am (1300 GMT). Some voters said they had been waiting since midnight on Saturday. The polls are to close at 6 pm (2400 GMT).

The ruling Sandinista Front faces a strong challenge from UNO, which has said it would roll back many of the far-reaching policies the Sandinistas implemented since seizing power in a 1979 revolution.

Some 2,500 international observers have fanned out through the country to watch the poll, the most closely-scrutinised ever held in an independent country.

Some polling stations opened late because of the late arrival of electoral officials or delays in preparing ballot papers, reporters said.

Former US President Jimmy Carter, whose verdict on the fairness of the elections is seen as critical, was out early touring polling stations in Managua.

He and Organisation of American States Secretary-General Joao Baena Soares went to the Loyola School, one of the biggest polling centres in the country. Voters there were impatient because the start of voting was delayed for at least an hour when electoral officials insisted on a recount of the ballot papers.

"The people outside are legitimately concerned. But it will be done correctly even if it takes a long time," Carter said.

"Tomorrow we will change the history of Nicaragua," UNO presidential candidate Violeta Chamorro said in a message to voters published in her newspaper La Prensa on Friday evening.

Nicaraguans hope the elections will end eight years of war against the Contra rebels and open a new era which will allow them to start rebuilding the shattered economy.

The polling also offer the hope of better relations between Nicaragua and the United States, which has tried to oust the Sandinistas since shortly after they came to power.

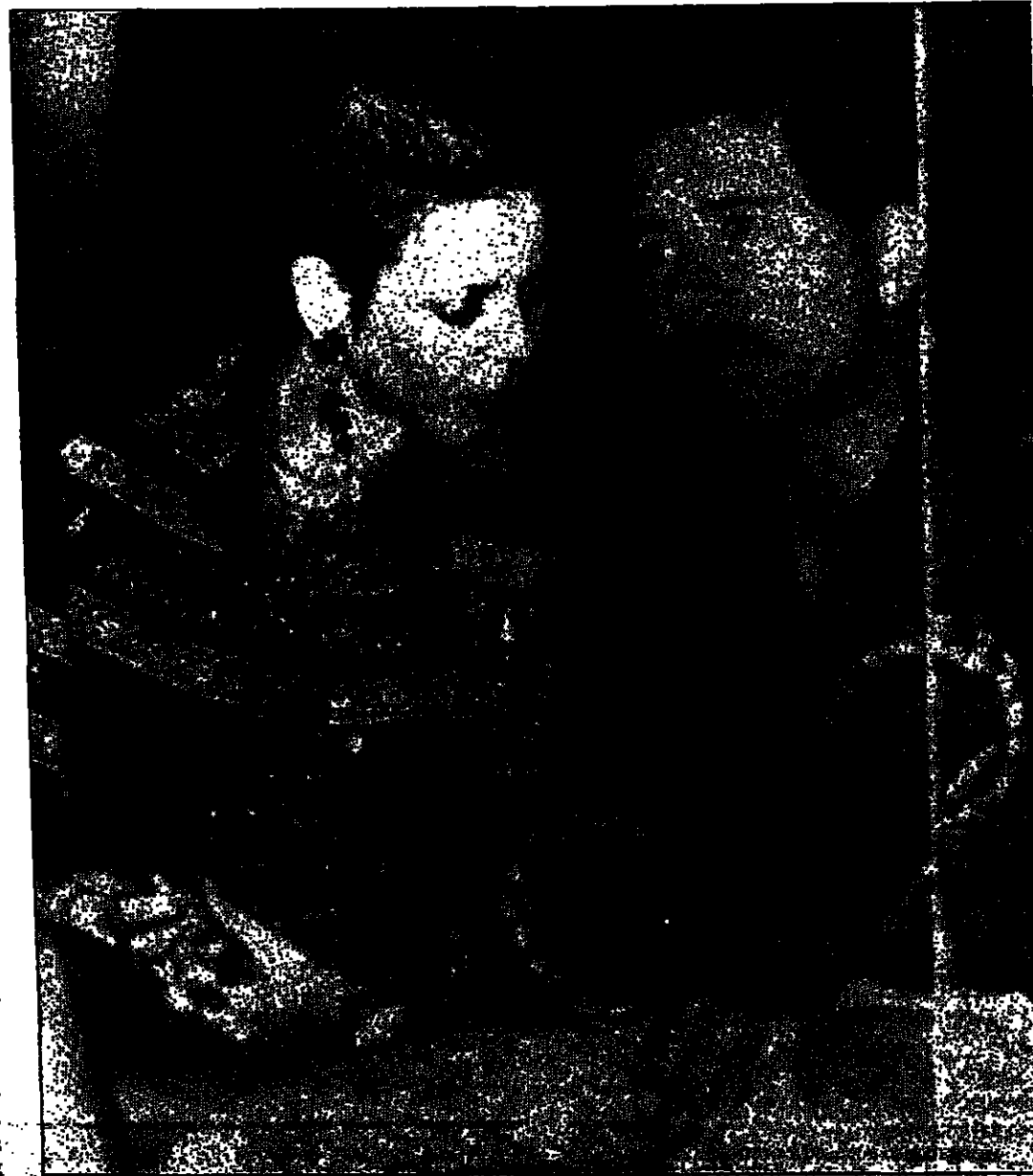
"We are ready to discuss with the United States concerns that they have and concerns that we have," Ortega told the Sandinistas' closing election rally last week.

Despite problems with intimidation and media bias in favour of the ruling Sandinistas, the main international groups observing the elections have said Nicaraguans will have a free choice on election day.

The UNO still fears that the Sandinistas could try to steal the elections through fraud.

Carter said yesterday he would urge the United States to establish normal relations with Nicaragua immediately if Sunday's general elections proved to be clean.

Sandinista government will apply for a standby loan from the International Monetary Fund if it wins Sunday's general election, Planning and Budget Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca said.



Nicaraguan First Lady Rosario Murillo talks with her husband Ortega. (Reuters wirephoto)



Former US president Jimmy Carter (right) shakes hands with Ortega. (Reuters wirephoto)

Report cites on NY area-bound jets

Airliners often low on fuel

NEW YORK, Feb 25, (UPI): Aviation officials investigating last month's crash of an Avianca jetliner that apparently ran out of fuel say at least 20 other jets in local skies experienced similar low-fuel crises during the past seven years, the Daily News reported today.

Many of the planes — 12 of them commercial jetliners — were so low on fuel they could not have reached their alternate destinations, the News said, citing figures from the federal aviation safety reporting system.

The low-fuel reports were brought to light by investigators looking for evidence of a pattern in the wake of the Avianca crash, the News said.

Seven of the 20 jets declared fuel emergencies, which clears a path for an immediate landing, the News said.

But in an eerie parallel to the Avianca crash, one flight crew's declaration of a fuel emergency was never relayed to air traffic controllers at Kennedy international airport.

The Avianca crew's warning they were running low on fuel also was not relayed to Kennedy controllers, and the jet slammed into a Long Island hillside when its fuel-starved engines suddenly stopped.

The pilot of a plane identified only as "a large jet" told investigators his request for an emergency landing was initially approved. The pilot said he was shocked, on final approach, to notice a commuter plane trying to land in front of him.

"I overheard said he must declare a fuel emergency to land," the pilot was quoted by the News as saying in his anonymous ASRS report. "I thought we already had."

Controllers diverted the commuter plane, and the jet landed safely.

In another case, a co-pilot told safety officials his captain at first refused to divert his jet, scheduled to land in Newark, New Jersey, just outside New York City, to a closer landing at Philadelphia despite a serious fuel leak.

Brazilians pack street parades, bars in second day of carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb 25, (AP): Rich and poor, drunk and sober, Brazilians of all walks of life threw themselves into a second day of exuberant partying today, packing bars, costume balls, and street parades to take part in the country's famous carnival celebration.

Revelers from across this continent-sized country temporarily forgot their worries, danced the samba, and caught a few hours sleep before heading out for more fun as the four-day non-stop festival,

that ends on Ash Wednesday, moved into high gear.

In Rio, the unofficial carnival headquarters, thousands of people yesterday tossed down beers and danced throughout the downtown area and in beachfront districts. A huge parade of merry-makers in the plush south zone — led by hundreds of men clad in gowns and wigs — snaked through the streets before arriving at the famous "Girl From Ipanema" bar for a wild celebration.

Those with more money to spend jammed one of the luxurious balls that attract up to 10,000 people each.

At the Scala nightclub's Gala City Ball, dancing went on until 6 am (0800 GMT). The club will be hastily cleaned and made over to accommodate another huge crowd at the Happy City Ball, set to begin 16 hours later.

The highlight of today's activities begins at 7 pm local time (2100 GMT) when some 40,000 dancers, representing

Role of Nazi hunter disputed

WASHINGTON, Feb 25, (AP): The founder of Israel's security services says famed Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal played no significant role in the capture of Adolf Eichmann 30 years ago, despite Wiesenthal's claims to the contrary.

"Wiesenthal had no role whatsoever in either the discovery, the identification or the capture of Adolf Eichmann," Isser Harel says in an unpublished manuscript made available to the Associated Press.

Harel challenges the enduring legend of Wiesenthal as the dogged tracker who supplied key information that enabled Israeli agents to locate the Nazi fugitive in Argentina.

While not an entirely new dispute — Harel and Wiesenthal clashed years ago — the Harel manuscript was the most detailed effort yet to debunk Wiesenthal's claims.

"This is a matter of jealousy," Wiesenthal said in a telephone interview from Vienna.

Harel said he held off disputing Wiesenthal before now because he did not want to "give satisfaction to Jew-haters and Nazi sympathizers."

But Harel said he could no longer keep quiet. He said that although he could not publish the manuscript commercially, he wanted it preserved for historians. "History must express the truth about this case," he said.

With few exceptions, the 79-year-old Harel has avoided the spotlight. He found Mossad, the legendary Israeli intelligence agency, and masterminded the 1960 operation in which Mossad agents kidnapped Eichmann in Argentina and spirited him to Israel for trial.

Eichmann tried the Gestapo's Bureau for Jewish Affairs and was accused of responsibility for planning and ordering the deportations and murder of four million Jews. He was convicted by an Israeli court and hanged in 1962.

Reputation While Harel remained largely unknown, the 81-year-old Wiesenthal gained worldwide fame as a hunter, a reputation that began with accounts of his role in the Eichmann case.

In books written over 30 years, Wiesenthal has recounted how he narrowly missed capturing Eichmann in Austria in 1949, kept track of his brothers and wife over the years, and supplied Israel with information about Eichmann's whereabouts in Argentina as far back as 1954.

"In all my books, I say it was team work," Harel says. "I alone was responsible" for the Eichmann capture, Wiesenthal said.

Harel, especially in a 1969 home box office movie about his life, Wiesenthal is depicted as instrumental to the Eichmann abduction.

Book His first book, in 1961, was titled, "I Hunted Eichmann."

"Adolf Eichmann, whose spectacular capture was engineered by Wiesenthal," reads the flyleaf of Wiesenthal's latest book "Justice Not Vengeance," scheduled for US release next month.

Harel does not dispute that Wiesenthal was among those who sought Eichmann, nor does he deny the Holocaust survivor's pivotal role in tracking Nazi fugitives and keeping alive international awareness of the German atrocities.

But in his 270-page manuscript, he said, "all the information supplied by Wiesenthal before and in anticipation of the operation was utterly worthless, and sometimes even misleading and of negative value."

He repeated that assessment in a telephone interview from his home in suburban Tel Aviv.

"Just as it's very critical to accurately depict Nazi crimes, it is very important that the effort to bring to justice Nazi criminals be truthfully recorded," said Neal Sher, who heads the Justice Department's office of Nazi War Crimes.

Operation While it is clear that many people were looking for Eichmann after the war, "there can be no doubt that the most reliable and authoritative source on the Mossad operation that captured Eichmann is Isser Harel," said Sher, who teaches a course at Cornell University about the Eichmann trial.

In the 1970s Harel told his account of the capture in a book called "The House On Garibaldi Street," which is where Eichmann lived under an assumed name. Wiesenthal is not mentioned in the book.

Harel's book "gives generous credit" to others involved in the affair, Sher said. Among these is Fritz Bauer, the West German prosecutor whom Harel identified as the source of the information that eventually led to Eichmann.

Credit Harel said he had not known the extent to which Wiesenthal took credit for the operation until he visited the United States last year on a fund-raising drive for Israel and repeatedly encountered audiences who asked about Wiesenthal's role.

"He tried to erode Israel's role in the affair," Harel said.

Panama freezes drug-linked bank accounts

PANAMA CITY, Feb 25, (Reuters): The Panamanian government has frozen more than 200 bank accounts it believes are linked to members of the notorious Medellín drug cartel and to ousted strongman General Manuel Noriega, a local newspaper reported yesterday.

The daily Panama-América quoted a government official as saying the government ordered the accounts frozen on Friday and had taken the action based in part on information provided by the US Drug Enforcement Administration.

Among the seized accounts were those linked to Gonzalez Rodriguez Gacha, a leader of the drug cartel killed last year by Colombian authorities, and to Eduardo Martinez, a cartel leader extradited to the United States,

according to Victor Manuel Aldana, a senior official in the Ministry of Public Affairs.

The banks holding the accounts were not identified, but the paper reported Aldana as saying that no more than \$9 million were seized.

Noriega, deposed after US armed forces invaded his country last December 20, surrendered to US authorities January 3 and is being held in Miami awaiting trial on drug-trafficking charges.

During Noriega's rule, Panama became a centre for money-laundering operations by drug traffickers. A new US-supported government has vowed to help the United States battle drug-trafficking.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION — WINNERS AND LOSERS

by John Gerull and Benito Rotella

PART THREE: The ABC of the Business Investor Program.

For most Canadians, the national symbol is the maple tree. For the Canadian business world, it's a hockey stick.

So you want to be a winner? You must be part of the strategy of play, know the rules and aim for a score. One per cent luck, ninety-nine per cent skill. Investment in a World Cup team. That's available if you join the ring. Remember, it's a thoroughly organized hockey ring — not a circus ring that's for losers.

To qualify for immigration to Canada because you have both money and business experience, you have two options: the Business Investor Program or the Entrepreneurial Program. You've got to meet certain regulations before you qualify to apply. If you are at present helping your grandfather in the local vegetable store, you're not in the running. But if you are a successful businessman, (and can prove it), administrator, or professional with business interests you might just qualify. So it's worth reading on. We haven't got the space to give you the fine details, but we can let you have the absolute minimum requirements. Remember — it's official Canadian immigration policy which calls the shots.

Fire one. All candidates, in whatever province they wish to invest in, need a minimum net capital of \$500,000 for the standard investment program.

Fire two: Amounts to be invested, apart from the net capital, differ depending on the program. With \$150,000 CDN you can invest in a federally approved investment syndicate for a minimum of three years in a province such as Nova Scotia. With \$250,000 to invest you can start to provinces such as Quebec or Ontario and invest for three years. With \$500,000 you can invest in debt instruments for a period of five years, the only trouble being in this guaranteed investment scheme is that you have to raise your net capital to \$700,000 CDN.

Fire three: You have to be able to prove that you acquired your net capital through your business endeavors over a minimum period of three years.

Investors in Quebec only have to prove one year of similar business experience.

If you've survived these shots, here are a few tidbits of information that might help you:

1. Quebec has independent power of selection. This means it can approve its own programs and qualify its own candidates.

2. A bank guarantee to secure your investment is only

available if you've fallen into the \$500,000 CDN investment category.

3. A first mortgage on prime commercial or industrial real estate is available to secure your investment in Quebec.

Now for a few truths that will save you many a headache. Business Investor Programs are not approved if there is no risk involved. The only exception is for those applying with a minimum net capital of \$700,000. Don't be fooled by consultants who lure you by using this exceptional category. It's black and white. No risk, no go.

Banks sell investor programs in which they are not involved. It's easy for them to disassociate themselves from your investor program.

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You do not have to take up residency in the province in which you apply to invest, and unlike the Entrepreneurial program, there is no limit on your visa. You do not even have to be involved in the management of the company or investment syndicate in which your investment is made.

Qualifying for immigration through any investment does not mean the Canadian government guarantees your investment. The coast-to-coast smiles of the officials mean that they're just being friendly. Nothing more. Professionals, such as doctors, can qualify if they can prove that at least 50% of the required period of time for business experience was spent directly involved in administrative work. "Business experience" might have a broader interpretation than you think.

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INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

Grandparents given custody

Father can't see Hilary

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 25, (UPI): The grandfather of a 7-year-old girl caught in an international custody dispute called the child's father a "pedophile pervert" and said he would prevent him from seeing the little girl.

Meanwhile, oral surgeon Eric Foretich, 47, on his way to New Zealand from his Virginia home, said he wanted to "rescue" his daughter Hilary.

A Christchurch court has issued a temporary order granting custody of Hilary to her maternal grandparents and preventing Foretich from seeing her.

Hilary was recently discovered living in Christchurch with her grandparents, William and Antonia Morgan, more than two years after her mother sent her to her father, whom she accuses of sexually abusing the girl.

The mother, plastic surgeon Elizabeth Morgan, spent 25 months in a Washington, DC jail on contempt charges for refusing to divulge her daughter's whereabouts.

Foretich, who reportedly hired a detective to track Hilary down in New Zealand, has repeatedly denied he abused his daughter.

The discovery of Hilary has set off a new round of legal disputes in the 4-year-old custody fight. Foretich has filed for interim custody of Hilary through the New Zealand courts.

"Get these words... he is a psychopathic pedophile pervert," William Morgan, Hilary's maternal grandfather, said.

Foretich told reporters he would call the police if Foretich attempted to see Hilary "because the court order says he can't."

Morgan also said Hilary had been happy in New Zealand and had not been living the life of a fugitive.

"We're open," he said. "Hilary is happy at her school here."

He accused Foretich of hiring "spies" to watch Hilary "24 hours a day."

A private detective "car" was seen outside the Diplomat Hotel in Christchurch, an apartment-style complex where the Morgans and Hilary have been living, said he was working on behalf of a "legal representative" but would not say if he was hired by Foretich.

Foretich.

His view of the home was often blocked by hordes of reporters who have arrived to cover the continuing saga.

The Morgans were given temporary custody of Hilary at a brief hearing in the New Zealand family court, in Christchurch, last Friday, authorities said.

The interim custody order will be reviewed at another hearing scheduled for sometime this week.

Meanwhile, Foretich, in an interview published in the dominion Sunday Times in Christchurch, vowed to do his utmost to "rescue" his daughter.

"I just want to see my daughter," he said, "I just want to see what can be done to get her back."

"I have faith in the New Zealand justice system," Foretich said. "I don't intend that it will be very easy, but I intend to rescue my daughter."

Elizabeth Morgan's attorney in New Zealand, Lyn Stevens, said she would "vigorously" oppose any effort by Foretich to see his daughter.

Authorities said it was believed Hilary and her grandparents have been living in New Zealand for a little more than two years.

They said apparently Foretich learned his daughter was hiding in New Zealand after the grandparents applied for permanent residency, which led to official inquiries.

Neither parent apparently has seen the child since she was sent away. Morgan had her passport revoked during the custody dispute and it was unclear whether she would be able to attend the court hearing this week.

Isabel Mitchell, a specialist in family law appointed by the court to act as Hilary's lawyer, said she hoped the child would be able to live a normal life during the ensuing battle.

"I just want to insulate Hilary from all this," she said. "It's sad for a child to have her world turned upside down."

Mitchell said Hilary appeared in good spirits and was anxious to continue with school and social activities.

Morgan also accused Foretich of sending private detectives to watch the family. "He's got his spies out there," a man sitting in a car nearby said. "We're acting for legal representatives to ensure that a court order is abided by." He refused to say whom he was acting for.



Morgan is shown being released after spending two years in prison. (Reuter wirephoto)



Morgan Hilary's grandfather speaks to media on his way to church. (Reuter wirephoto)



Detectives leave the Diplomat Hotel where the Morgans have been staying. (Reuter wirephoto)

Computer problem delays Atlantis launch just 31 seconds before countdown: rescheduled for today

CAPE CANAVERAL, Feb 25, (AP): The launch of the Shuttle Atlantis on a secret military mission was scrubbed with 31 seconds left in the countdown early today, following three days of delays caused by weather and the mission commander's health.

"We have scrubbed for today," said Lisa Malone, the launch control centre commentator.

Nasa tentatively rescheduled the launch for tomorrow

at about 1 am (0600 GMT) pending resolution of a computer problem that caused the postponement.

Launch director Bob Sieck briefly considered launching the craft, which carries a spy satellite, later this morning. But after assessing all their options he and his aides decided they did not have enough time in the day to reschedule it.

The countdown had reached the 4-minute mark when the range safety monitor team detected a problem with one

of its computers. The clock was counted down to 31 seconds, a point where the spacecraft computer takes control, and was held there while experts investigated the problem.

The range safety monitor is responsible for sending a radio signal to destroy the shuttle if it strays too far off course and threatens populated areas.

There are two range safety computers, a primary and a

backup, and launch rules require both be operating, officials said. They said the backup failed, but they did not know why.

They said that while the count was being held temperatures on the main engines became too cold, forcing Sieck to call off the effort for the day.

Prior to the last-minute scrub, the clock had been stopped since Wednesday.

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7 dead, 100 hurt in Frankfurt Autobahn pileups

FRANKFURT, Feb 25, (AP): Fog combined with heavy traffic led to three separate highway pileups yesterday that involved more than 200 cars and killed seven people, police said. Nearly 100 people were reported injured.

The worst crash involved 134 cars on the main highway between Frankfurt and Munich. Six people died and 72 injured, 43 of them seriously, police said.

"There are wrecked cars all over the place. The injured are bleeding and screaming. It looks like a slaughterhouse," said a police officer.

Another person died when 74 cars crashed into each other on the Frankfurt-Berlin highway, police said. Seven people were critically injured, and 15 others suffered less serious injuries in that accident.

The third pileup, with 16 cars and five injuries, occurred on another highway near Frankfurt, police reported. One of the five suffered serious injuries.

Police said all three pileups were caused by fast driving in foggy conditions. There are usually no speed limits on West German autobahns. Traffic was particularly heavy last morning because of a short holiday marking the carnival season.

"The visibility was poor, but as usual drivers did not adjust their speed to the conditions and drove too fast," said one officer at the scene of the worst crash, on a stretch of the A3 autobahn between Aschaffenburg and Würzburg.

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Singer Johnnie Ray in a 1968 file photo who died of liver failure at Cedar-Sinai hospital, Los Angeles. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Prince of Wails' Ray is dead

LOS ANGELES, Feb 25, (Reuters): Johnnie Ray, whose sobbing renditions of such 1950s songs as 'Cry' and 'The Little White Cloud That Cried' earned him the nickname 'The Prince of Wails,' died yesterday of liver failure at age 63.

Ray's emotional performance style made him a household name in America, Europe and Australia and his amalgam of musical styles, blending rhythm and blues, country and western and gospel music, was credited with setting the stage for rock 'n' roll.

His first two records were banned for suggestive lyrics but later Ray could count among his admirers Britain's Queen Elizabeth, who proclaimed herself one of his biggest fans.

Ray attributed his success at least partially to an accident which happened when he was ten years old and which left him with only 50 per cent of his hearing.

While playing with friends he was tossed into the air in a blanket and hit the ground head-first. When Ray became hard of hearing and unresponsive, some assumed he was inattentive or retarded.

"I was just about the loneliest kid in the world," he once said of the five-year period before his deafness was diagnosed and during which he wrote his biggest hit, "The Little White Cloud That Cried."

At 15 he was fitted with the cumbersome hearing aid which would later become a trademark. His refusal to take it off during public appearances was an inspiration to millions of deaf people.

Ray arrived in Hollywood in 1949 determined to become a movie star. After working a number of jobs including bellboy, bartender, shipyard welder and saloon piano player, he decided to leave the film capital and head for New York.

Taking odd jobs across the country, he stopped in Detroit, Michigan, where he was heard by a local disc jockey who persuaded a Columbia records agent to listen to him. As a result of that meeting, Ray made two records which became hits in the US midwest until several radio stations banned them because of their suggestive lyrics.

But Ray found the recognition he needed and he was flown to New York.

Differences on bases strain US-Manila ties

MANILA, Feb 25, (AP): Four years after Corazon Aquino swept to power with strong words of support from Washington, harsh rhetoric and wide differences over US military bases have strained relations between her administration and the United States.

The strains have emerged nearly three months after US warplanes helped save Aquino from military mutineers out to topple her government. Ironically, the intervention may have contributed to the present strains by making her government eager to show it can still display independence from the nation's former colonial ruler.

Since her highly publicised "snub" last week of US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney, whom Aquino refused to receive personally, the government has moved to soften its rhetoric towards the United States.

But the strains have also been exacerbated by statements by US officials questioning the political survivability of Aquino, who swept to power on Feb 25, 1986 in the uprising against the late Ferdinand Marcos.

"Let me just acknowledge to you that US-RP relations are in a bumpy path right now," said US Ambassador Nicholas Platt in a television interview this week. "We're in some turbulent air."

Relations with Washington began to sour last month after Congress cut \$96 million from the president's Philippine aid package.

Filipinos considered this a violation of the October 1988 agreement under which the United States offered \$962 million over two years in return for use of Clark Air Base, the Subic Bay Naval base and four smaller installations through the end of their lease in 1991. That offer was subject to congressional ratification.

Talks on extending the lease are expected to begin in a few weeks. But any agreement must be ratified by two-thirds of the 23-member Philippine Senate. More than half the 195-member House of Representatives has already urged Aquino to postpone discussing the bases until the aid was restored.

Before Cheney's visit, which began last

Monday, Aquino said she would not receive the defence chief because she was angry over adverse reports of her administration in the US press.

Filipino officials now insist the "snub" was to demonstrate anger over aid cuts. But Aquino, who bristles at criticism, cited only the press reports, making it appear her decision was more emotional than political.

Filipino diplomatic sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Washington embassy had warned that the Cheney snub and strong anti-American statements from Congressmen and commentators threatened to undermine US support.

In Manila, Cheney offered no guarantees the aid would be restored. He cited Congress' desire for fiscal restraint.

Aquino welcomed Cheney's statements of support and said she was ready to negotiate with the Americans in "sincerity and good faith."

An influential minority here believe the bases infringe on sovereignty, contribute to prostitution and drug addiction and should be closed.

Unlike South Koreans who face an enemy to the North, Filipinos generally perceive no external military threat. Therefore, US arguments that the bases are essential for national and regional defence carry little weight here.

Last year, Aquino noted to foreign reporters that the presence of US troops here did not deter Japan from invading in 1941 and doubtless encouraged the attack.

Most Filipinos consider the bases a business deal — renting territory in return for cash — and "failure" to pay constitutes a breach of contract.

Last December, US jets from Clark flew air cover for government forces, and their intervention was widely seen as decisive in defeating the uprising against Aquino.

But the intervention also encouraged a belief that Aquino owes her political survival to the Americans and will ultimately agree to extend the bases at terms favourable only to the United States.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jackson speaks at meeting: The Rev. Jesse Jackson, in his first public appearance in Chicago since returning from South Africa, compared the US civil rights movement to the release of Nelson Mandela, in a speech at operation Push Headquarters.

"American civil rights and the African liberation movements have run parallel in history," Jackson said.

The release of Mandela by South African government officials after 27 years of imprisonment does not mean he is free because his country of South Africa still operates under apartheid, the Push founder said.

Mandela is out of jail, (but) he is not free," he said. Despite being in prison for so many years, Jackson said Mandela was not bitter. (UPI)

16-megabit memory chip developed: Texas Instruments Inc. said Wednesday in Dallas it has produced an experimental super memory chip able to store 16 million bits of information, the second such computer component to be unveiled in the United States within a week.

The semiconductor manufacturer, a leading US manufacturer of chips for Dynamic Random Access Memory or DRAM, said it expects to begin commercial production of the new chip within 12 to 18 months.

TII disclosed the production of its superchip a week after International Business Machines Corp. announced it has produced a 16-million-bit superchip, which can hold the equivalent of 1,600 pages of text on a surface smaller than a postal stamp and retrieve information at the speed of 1/25th of a second.

In 1988, IBM invested close to \$6 billion in research efforts, including about the superchip. (UPI)

Space seeds removed: Some 4 million seeds have been removed from a satellite that spent 5-1/2 years in orbit for distribution to students around the United States to study the effects of cosmic radiation on seeds stored in outer space.

NASA technicians removed a tray containing the seeds from the Long Duration Exposure Facility (LDEF), a NASA spokeswoman said. The seeds will be turned over to the George W. Park Seed Co. Inc. of Greenwood, south Carolina, which sponsored the experiment.

"We're delighted," said company spokesman Dave Phillips.

The seeds will be tested to make sure they are still alive and then will be packaged and distributed to students in grades 5 through college, beginning perhaps as early as March 5, Phillips said.

The seeds include 12.5 million tomato seeds and an assortment of 1.5 million other seeds for such plants as the Texas bluebonnet, peas, beans, corn, peppers, onions, kudu vines and a variety of herbs, he said. (UPI)

New diggings dot ranch: Several new holes in the ground roughly the size and shape of graves have been discovered at a ranch where at least 13 people were killed last year by a drug-smuggling cult, it was reported Thursday in Matamoros, Mexico.

The Santa Elena ranch near the Texas-Mexico border is where the mutilated bodies, including that of a University of Texas student Mark Kilroy, were unearthed nearly a year ago.

Some of the victims had been tortured before being killed in ritualistic ceremonies at the isolated ranch about 20 miles west of Matamoros.

US officials said they believe the recent diggings at the ranch — now controlled by the Mexican government — are the work of grief-stricken Mexicans looking for missing loved ones.

"There are lots of people who are missing in Mexico," Lt. George Gavito of the Cameron County sheriff's office, told the Austin American-Statesman. "They've probably heard about what happened out there and want to go see if their missing relatives are out there." (UPI)

Churches claim victory: Organised religious investors claimed a major victory Friday in a reversal of securities and exchange commission policies that will require tobacco companies to include shareholder resolutions to phase out tobacco products in proxy statements.

"This victory is the latest in a series of serious setbacks for the tobacco industry," said Timothy Smith, director of the Interfaith Centre on Corporate Responsibility. (UPI)

US sky diver falls to death

PALATKA, Florida, Feb 25, (AP): A sky diver was knocked unconscious during an 80-person free-fall yesterday and fell to his death after another diver tried to deploy his chute but couldn't, a sky-diving company official said.

Paul Williams, 40, was one of the last people to jump from four planes at 15,000 feet (4,570 metres) when he collided with another diver and lost consciousness, said Susan Basse, an owner of the Palatka Paracentre.

"Another sky diver, seeing the man falling in free fall, attempted to get to him and pull the rip cord, but was unable. To the best of our knowledge, unfortunately he never regained consciousness and died on impact," Ms Basse said.

"This was an experienced jumper, in excess of 2,600 sky dives."

Sentenced racketeer ill

Mano Branca dos Santos, known to millions of Portuguese as 'Dona Branca' lies in a Lisbon hospital bed on Feb 23, where she is being treated for Parkinson's disease. Branca dos Santos was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment after being found guilty of running a fraudulent private banking operation. (Reuter wirephoto)

Asian spiritual beliefs clash with California authorities

FRESNO, Calif., Feb 25, (Reuters): An immigrant family from Laos has found itself in a clash between their spiritual beliefs and orders by California officials that their 6-year-old son undergo surgery to correct seriously deformed feet.

The conflict became public this week when the father, Ger Xiong, one of about 26,000 Hmong living in this central California city, showed up in court to contest the mandatory operation on his son, Kou Xiong. The boy has cleft feet and a dislocated hip.

Fresno county officials sued Xiong to force him to allow the surgery. Xiong and his wife, Houa Vue, acting on the advice of Hmong spiritual leaders, or Shamans, have resisted the series of operations.

The Shamans have told the family that Kou, who walks haltingly, is special and that altering his feet would anger God and the spirits in which they believe.

The two-day hearing showed the sometimes-jarring cultural differences between Hmong and their adopted home.

"Counselor," judge Lawrence O'Neill asked Ger Xiong's attorney during the hearing, "is there any reason that we have a live chicken in the courtroom?"

Besides the chicken, which clucked away in a plastic bag, Xiong brought with him ceremonial papers, incense and a burner knife.

The knife was for the chicken, so that its blood could be burned with the court papers if Xiong lost his case — a ceremony intended to direct blame away from the family if the boy's condition is altered.

The family's beliefs seem to be bolstered by experience. Five years ago, in a refugee camp

Protests hit five cities in S. Korea

SEOUL, Feb 25, (AP): Radicals shouting anti-government and anti-US slogans tried to attack a US diplomat's residence and clashed with riot police in five cities today, news reports and witnesses said.

Police fired tear-gas to break up protests in Kwangju, Incheon, Taegu, Pusan and Taejeon and arrested some 100 people. About 3,000 people joined in the protests, many of them aimed at the recent three-party merger that created a giant new governing party, reports said.

The Yonhap news agency said about 50 radical students shouting "Yankee go home" tried to attack a US diplomat's residence with rocks in the southern city of Kwangju, but police drove them off with tear-gas.

The students were stopped about 10 yards (metres) from the main gate of the residence of Carlton Ames, director of the US cultural centre in Kwangju, shortly before 9 am (0000 GMT), it said.

The US embassy in Seoul confirmed the attempted attack, but declined to comment.

It was not known whether Ames was at home at the time, or whether there was any damage to his residence. Police said there were no arrests or injuries.

Almost simultaneously, two separate groups of about 30 radicals each tried to attack two police substations in Kwangju but also were dispersed by tear-gas-firing police, Yonhap said.

Radical students hurling rocks and firebombs later fought police in two areas of Kwangju for about 30 minutes, Yonhap said. It said the students protested the "dictatorial" merger last month of President Roh Tae-Woo's governing party with two centrist opposition groups.

Radicals and dissidents, a small but vocal minority, claim the merger marked a return to authoritarian control and was ploy to stall democratisation.

Kwangju, 150 miles (240 kilometres) south of Seoul, is the stronghold of opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung, whose Party for Peace and Democracy was left isolated as a result of the merger.

In Incheon, 48 kilometres (30 miles) west of Seoul, about 800 radicals, some of them factory workers, briefly fought police with firebombs after their anti-government rally was blocked.

"Punish Roh Tae-Woo" and "drive out Yankees," witnesses quoted the protesters as yelling.

The protesters claimed the United States was behind the three-party merger, which they called "anti-democratic," the witnesses said.

Police fired tear-gas to break up the protesters as they tried to march into a busy commercial street and arrested about 100 of them, the witnesses added.

In Taegu, President Roh's hometown, 256 kilometres (160 miles) south-east of Seoul, about 1,000 people held an anti-government rally and demanded retraction of the merger, Yonhap said.

Police tossed tear-gas grenades to disperse small groups of protesters who tried to march into downtown areas in Taegu, Pusan and Taejeon, Yonhap and other reports said.

Water purifying process: If Etienne Dillie, a French engineer and scientist, is to be believed, there is one way to quell the fears of French consumers and give them tap water without a trace of nitrate, that is to purify the water under a method he has developed.

Speaking on the French television, Dillie, who said he had worked on that water purifying process for three years in the faculty of science, in Nice, south of France, indicated that he found the miraculous purifying calcium product, only last December.

He added that he has taken out a patent and that analysis carried out by the regional hydrobiology laboratory of Nice seem to be conclusive.

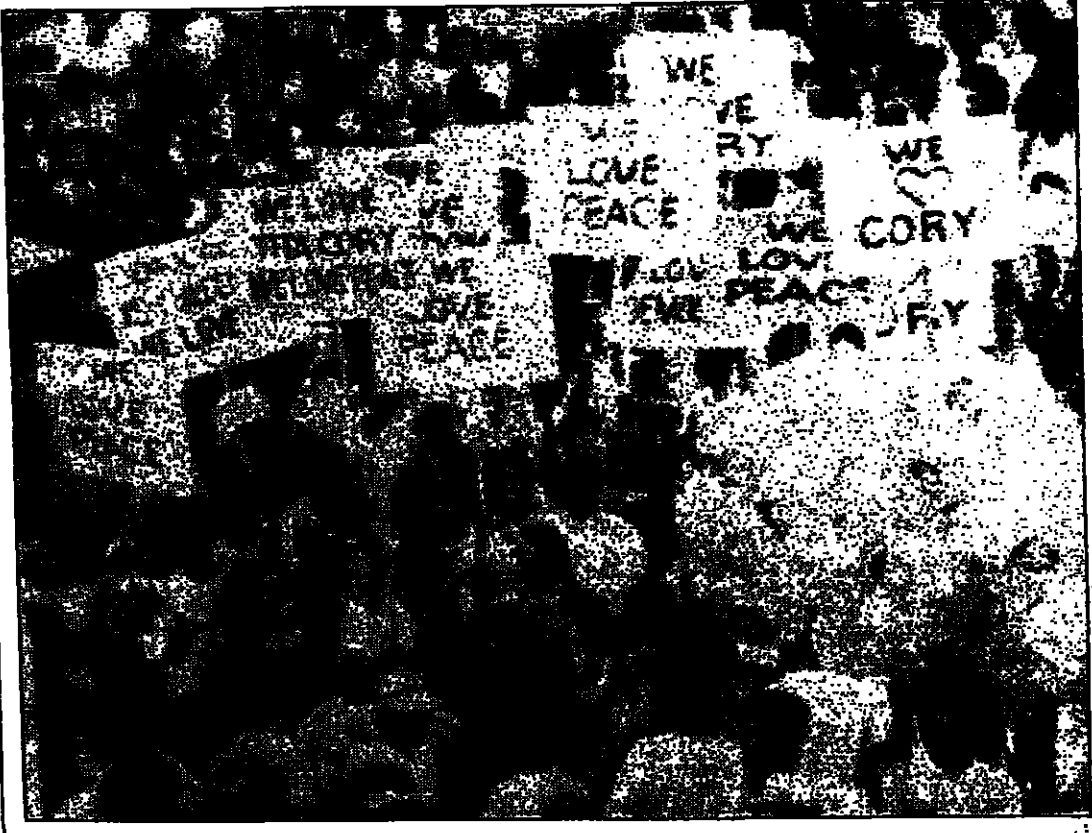
Dillie revealed that he has already been awarded an order by Switzerland for water purification in a processing plant with a capacity of 35,000 cubic metres per day. (Kuna)

Protect migrating birds: The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds on Friday said it strongly supported efforts by Italian naturalists to prevent hunting of migratory birds in Italy.

It said a referendum on hunting, scheduled this spring, could compel the Italian government to give better protection to wildlife.

The society devoted three pages to the subject in the spring issue of its quarterly magazine, Birds, which circulates among the 650,000 members, the largest bird conservation body in Europe.

"Every year, over the Straits of Messina — between Sicily and Italy — thousands of honey buzzards are shot on migration between Africa and central Europe. Weak and widely unenforced legislation does little to stop gunmen shooting and trapping protected species throughout Italy," said a news release issued with the magazine. (AP)



Cory-mania

Supporters of Philippine President Corazon Aquino carry placards during a rally in Manila yesterday. Aquino who spoke during the rally defended her record since being swept to power by a popular revolt four years ago. (Reuter wirephoto)

US-Japan encounter

WASHINGTON, Feb 25, (Agencies): The White House said today that President George Bush will meet late this week in California with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. The encounter was likely to touch on frustrated efforts to resolve trade disagreements.

The two will meet this coming Friday and Saturday in Palm Springs for a general discussion of international developments, the US-Japanese global partnership and bilateral relations," a White House statement said.

The announcement said that Bush telephoned Kaifu on Friday to congratulate him on his ruling Liberal Democratic Party's recent electoral triumph and that the pair agreed on the "desirability of an early meeting."

The two leaders met for the first time in September, when Kaifu visited Washington soon after becoming prime minister.

"The visit underlines the vital importance both countries attach to the US-Japanese relationship and its contribution to the preservation of peace and prosperity in the Pacific and throughout the world," the White House said.

Bush wants to hear Japan's position on the political changes in Eastern Europe and hopes for an early exchange of opinions on Japanese-US co-operation toward thawing East-West ties, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official told Kyodo News Service in Tokyo.

Another Foreign Ministry official told Kyodo that the two sides hope to find ways to improve their strained trade relations.

Kaifu is expected to reassure Bush that Japan tends to solve issues such as the "structural impediments" at the top of Washington's complaint list on trade with Japan. The US trade deficit with Japan for 1989 is expected to reach \$49 billion.

Resisting 'Recruit' men

Kaifu in a fix

TOKYO, Feb 25, (Reuters): Far from basking in last week's resounding election victory, Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is locked in battle with powerful ruling party barons who want him to name scandal-tainted politicians to his cabinet.

Kaifu must reveal the new government line-up on Tuesday after being reconfirmed in office by parliament.

His chances of completely fending off the "Recruit" men appear slim because of an unwritten rule among Japanese politicians that says winning election "purifies" the candidate of past wrongdoing.

"It looks like the party bosses will push Kaifu over and name one or two (Recruit politicians) to his new cabinet," said Tadashi Iyasa, an Osaka University politics professor and an expert on the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Iyasa said the main reason was that the LDP grandees, themselves smeared by the share-for-favours scandal involving the Recruit Publishing and Telecommunications Group, wanted to end their own period of disgrace.

Former prime minister Noboru Takeshita, along with two would-be premiers, former ministers Shintaro Abe and Kiichi Miyazawa, have been sidelined since it was learned last year that they received shares from Recruit before they were offered to the public.

His powerful adversaries control more than 80 per cent of LDP members of parliament and, while they seem set to reconfirm him in office for now, Kaifu must always be aware they can pull the rug from under him at any time.

The bosses will make their "declaration of purification" by imposing a colleague, another Recruit shares recipient, on Kaifu's new administration, Iyasa said.

In Feb 18 polls, only one out of the 12 "Recruit" incumbents of the lower house lost his seat. The loser was a relatively unknown member from the small Democratic Socialist Party.

Already there are signs that Kaifu, who is reported to have said he wants no Recruit-tainted men in his new cabinet, will be fighting a losing battle.

One of these so-called "purified" politicians — former Agriculture Minister Mutsuki Kato — has already been named to chair the LDP research council, a powerful position which carries as much weight as a cabinet post.

But analysts say there is still some hope for Kaifu.

"Common sense says that this (naming Recruit politicians to the cabinet) must be avoided," said economic planning chief Sumiko Takahara, a non-MP member of Kaifu's outgoing cabinet.

"It's not that these people were given a free hand to do whatever they wanted to, just because they were re-elected," he said.

In addition, strong post-election criticism in the Western press of the LDP's three-decade stranglehold on power may bolster Kaifu's defiance.

One British paper said Japanese voters gave the LDP yet another majority in "an intellectual vacuum," while a French daily called Japan a "political dwarf."

A two-day round of US-Japan "structural impediments" talks ended inconclusively in Tokyo on Friday with the two sides taking widely divergent positions on fundamental aspects of the Japanese economy. The American government believes the Japanese have not responded to US demands regarding market barriers, the ministry official told Kyodo.



Anti-terror Japan rally

TOKYO, Feb 25, (AP): More than 700 people rallied and marched today, denouncing the shooting of Nagasaki mayor Hitoshi Motoshima by a rightist angered by his comment that the late Emperor Hirohito bore some responsibility for World War II.

"Let's discuss the emperor system more freely," protesters shouted as they marched about two kilometres (1.2 miles) through main streets of Nagasaki, on Japan's southernmost main island of Kyushu.

They carried banners with slogans reading: "Freedom of speech with no taboo" and "denounce terrorism."

Motoshima, 68, was shot in the back on Jan 18 at the entrance to Nagasaki's city hall. He was released from a hospital on Wednesday.

Police arrested Kazumi Tajiri, 40, of Tokyo, a member of a rightist group, five hours after the shooting, and said Tajiri had admitted shooting the mayor.

Mud slinging

Youths wearing only loincloths, jostle in a rice paddy during the Mud Festival in Chiba, outskirts of Tokyo on Feb 25. About 30 people participate in one the Mimusuji shrine's festival to pray for good health, families safety and good harvest of the year. (Reuter wirephoto)



People's Liberation Army soldiers take a pledge of loyalty. (Reuters wirephoto)

Khmer flees in army push

French delay stalls talks

TAPRAYA, Thailand, Feb 25. (Agencies) A combined offensive by Vietnamese and Cambodian government troops pushed today within 12 miles (20 km) of the largest population centre seized by the resistance since Vietnam said it withdrew its army from Cambodia in September, a resistance officer said.

International refugee officials said they feared an attack on nearby refugee camps inside Thailand holding more than 160,000 Cambodians, many of them supporters of the resistance.

Organisers of the Cambodian peace talks said today they feared the unexpectedly delayed arrival of the French representative would cut precious negotiating time from the scheduled three-day session and hamper progress.

"We have no fixed time" for the appearance of French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, said Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, acknowledging the gathering could not possibly start early tomorrow as planned but would hopefully begin in the evening with the opening limited to brief remarks.

The officer from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said he had retreated from the town of Svay Chek, which fell to the government after massive shelling on Friday.

He said a force of tanks and armoured cars drove about 6 miles (10 km) past Svay Chek, bringing them to within about 12 miles (20 km) of Thmar Puok



Son Sann. (Reuters wirephoto)

district which has about 50,000 people under resistance control. The district was captured by the resistance in October and was believed to be the largest population centre in resistance hands.

"They will have difficulties in attacking Thmar Puok, because we are fully prepared for them," said the officer who asked not to be identified.

He said the KPNLF had laid mines, including anti-tank mines, dug tank traps and prepared bunkers to withstand the expected artillery and tank attack.

The officer said the resistance had three tanks and six artillery pieces captured from the government ready for what could be the first small tank battle of the 11-year-old conflict.

He said the attacking force included 18 Soviet-built T-54 tanks, six armoured personnel carriers, a number of artillery pieces and four truck-mounted BM21 rocket launchers — each with 40 rocket tubes.

Security on alert in Lhasa

BEIJING, Feb 25. (Reuters) Chinese security forces were on alert for renewed pro-independence demonstrations in Lhasa tomorrow when Tibetans celebrate their New Year festival for the first time under martial law.

Tibetans said the celebrations would be more festive this year, despite the security clampdown, because of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama, they called but still revered spiritual leader.

The Dalai Lama, who fled Tibet in 1959 after a mass uprising failed to oust the Chinese, was awarded the peace prize last October for what the Oslo-based Nobel Committee called his "non-violent" struggle for Tibetan independence.

China has repeatedly condemned the award and accused the 54-year-old leader of fomenting unrest in the Himalayan region which Beijing claims to have ruled since the 13th century.

The award triggered celebrations and demonstrations which security forces quickly suppressed in the Tibetan capital.

Lhasa authorities have banned two traditional acts of celebration — throwing "Tsampa, barley flour which is a staple as well as ritual food, and burning incense outdoors, according to Western travellers recently returned from the ancient city.

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China army told be vigilant

Latest sign Beijing fears further unrest

BEIJING, Feb 25. (Reuters) One of China's top generals has ordered the army to strengthen unity and maintain a high degree of vigilance, official newspapers reported today in the latest sign the Communist Party fears further unrest.

General Yang Baibing, secretary general of the party's central military commission, also told a key meeting of the Beijing area military command yesterday that political education should be strengthened.

"One: Correctly understand the present situation and always maintain a high degree of vigilance," Yang said, quoted by the Liberation Army Daily newspaper, giving the first of his orders.

"We must always value and protect unity

between superiors and the lower ranks, unity between the army and government and between army and people," Yang said.

He also called for strengthened unity between the various field armies that compose the \$3.5-million-strong People's Liberation Army, the official New China News Agency said.

Yang, the 70-year-old younger brother of President Yang Shangkun, praised the Beijing military command for "completing its glorious and enormous tasks" in 1989, a year he described as "unforgettable."

Yang's speech appeared aimed at dismissing a widely held belief among people in Beijing that some army units refused to take

part in crushing pro-democracy demonstrations in the capital last June.

Recent similar pronouncements reflected fear among China's leaders that the army could not be relied upon to support the party in the event of further unrest, Western diplomats said.

The authorities say more than 200 people were killed last June 3 and 4, while Western governments estimate the death toll at many hundreds.

The week-long meeting of the Beijing military command comes at a critical time for the leadership as anniversaries of last year's and previous anti-government protests approach.

Delay unity: Maggie

Tories at lowest ebb in opinion polls, Labour ahead

LONDON, Feb 25. (AP) Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher insisted in an interview published today that she has been right to speak out against a hasty reunification of the Germans.

"We were the first people to be talking in this way. Everyone is now coming along with us," Thatcher told the Sunday Times.

Thatcher has been criticised at home and abroad for not responding more enthusiastically to the prospect of a quickly reunited Germany, Britain's enemy in two World Wars.

In other developments an opinion poll has found Britain's governing Con-

servatives at their lowest ebb since Thatcher led them to power nearly 11 years ago.

Thatcher said Britain was right to insist on a proper framework for German reunification because it is one of the four victorious powers of World War II that govern Berlin. The others are the United States, Soviet Union and France.

She said she had told Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki that she would support his request to have the Germans give sovereignty of all territory now considered part of Poland. Furthermore, she said other countries, which she did not identify, had asked to be involved in this as well.

Thatcher said she realised Germany had sensitivities and ambitions. "But so has the rest of Europe. You cannot just ignore the history of this century as if it did not happen, and say, 'we are going to unify and everything else will have to be worked out afterwards.' That is not the way," Thatcher was quoted as saying.

The Sunday Times reported that she said there would have to be a transition period for East Germany to enter the European Economic Community because it had been a Nazi or Communist state since the 1930s. In addition, she said its highly subsidised products clashed with EEC competition laws.

"All this cannot be ignored. It had to be worked out now and we are working it out," Thatcher was reported as saying.

Thatcher again heaped warm praise on the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and expressed confidence that his policies will succeed.

She said: "I think he will win through. I do not think you can expect a change of that magnitude to take place that quickly."

The British leader pointed out "I think Mr Gorbachev has the most dominant personality, added to the most visionary ideals for the Soviet Union. That combination I do not quite see in anyone else."

The Conservatives currently have a majority of 100 seats after winning 'British' three elections in a row in 1979, 1983 and 1987.

The prime minister does not have to call another elections before mid-1992.

The poll recorded 51 per cent support for Labour — up from 12 per cent in January — 34 per cent for the Conservatives and the remaining 15 per cent for minor parties.



Carlo di Ripa di Meana.

EEC to propose Ban on driftnet

BRUSSELS, Feb 25. (Reuters) The European Economic Community is preparing to ban fishing for tuna with driftnets, the "walls of death" that ensnare whales, dolphins and other fish as they scoop up all marine life in their path.

EEC environment commissioner Carlo Ripa di Meana condemns the use of driftnets as "economic and environmental suicide."

Often miles (km) long and made of fine mesh, the nets are hung out like a curtain between two boats that drag them through the water, indiscriminately catching not only tuna but other fish that are then discarded.

"We consider the practice an irresponsible and greedy approach to sea

resources," Ripa said in an interview with Reuters. "When you drag and you comb and you destroy, then you have a dead sea."

EEC fisheries commissioner Manuel Marin will shortly propose a ban on the use of driftnets for tuna fishing in community waters except the Mediterranean sea, EEC sources said.

A ban in the Mediterranean will follow later in the year when the commission puts forward plans to bring the sea within the bloc's common fisheries policy for the first time.

The proposed ban, which will require approval by EEC fisheries ministers, will hit the French Atlantic fleet hardest.

Greek Parliament again fails to elect a president

ATHENS, Feb 25. (AP) Parliament today failed to elect a head of state in its second round of voting after the conservative New Democracy Party abstained from the roll call.

The action made it impossible for either of the two candidates — incumbent President Christos Sartzetakis and former Parliament speaker Yannis Alevras — to receive the necessary number of votes.

New Democracy, Greece's largest political group, also abstained in the first round of voting last Monday and has said it will abstain again in the third.

A candidate for a five-year term in the largely

ceremonial post of president must win at least 200 votes in the first two rounds of balloting in the 300-member unicameral parliament and 180 votes in the third.

The Conservatives hold 148 seats, the Socialists 128 and the Communists 21. Three seats belong to independents.

Alevras, backed by the Socialists, received 127 votes; Sartzetakis received 21 votes from the Communist Alliance, and four deputies were absent from the chamber.

In the first round of voting, Sartzetakis, who ran unopposed, received 151 votes.

House speaker Athanasios Tsaldaris said the third round will be held next Saturday. Parties may propose a different candidate in each round.

Earlier this month, parliament agreed to hold general elections on April 8, anticipating a deadlock in the presidential balloting. The first task of the new parliament will be to continue voting for a new president.

New Democracy leader Constantine Mitsotakis met with his party's parliamentary group one hour before the voting today and repeated that the Conservatives would abstain from the present balloting.

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\$24m cannabis seized in UK

LONDON, Feb 25. (Reuters) British customs have seized around six tons of cannabis with a street value of £14 million (\$24 million) during a raid in London.

The cannabis had been smuggled into Britain by ship from Thailand, a spokesman said yesterday. The drug, hidden in a container supposed to be carrying glassware, was tracked from a port east of London and confiscated on Friday.

Four men appeared in court yesterday charged with illegally importing the cannabis.

Britain seized around 50 tons of cannabis last year, the customs spokesman said.

Obituary



Sandro Pertini (Reuters wirephoto)

Pertini, former president, dies at 93

ROME, Feb 25. (Agencies) Sandro Pertini, a highly popular former Socialist President of Italy and World War II hero, died Saturday night at the age of 93, the Italian media reported.

The blunt-talking Pertini, imprisoned by the Fascist government during the war, served in the largely ceremonial presidential post from 1978 to 1985 while Italy defeated urban terrorism and moved to become one of the world's economic powers.

The Italian News Agency Ansa said Pertini died in his sleep after dining with his wife, Carla, in their apartment facing the famous Trevi Fountain in central Rome.

The exact cause of death was not immediately known, but Pertini had not been well since early this month after he fell in the apartment and hit his head.

Pertini had expressed the desire to die at home and not be admitted to a hospital. He had asked for a private funeral at his birthplace in northern Italy followed by cremation.

Francesco Cossiga, who succeeded Pertini in the presidency, paid a half-hour visit to the apartment Sunday morning.

Pertini, elected by parliament after Giovanni Leone was forced to resign during a scandal, was credited with boosting the morale of Italians during the dark days of terrorism and instilling a sense of pride.

Born in the Italian Riviera town of Savona on Sept 25, 1896, Pertini studied law and political science before fighting in World War I.

In 1916 he helped found the Socialist Party in Italy with Pietro Nenni, but he never allowed himself to be restricted by party lines.

During the rise of fascism after World War I, Pertini was imprisoned but managed to escape to France. In 1929, during the regime of dictator Benito Mussolini, he was captured in northern Italy and sentenced again.

Pertini spent nearly 10 years in Mussolini's prisons before he escaped again to lead a resistance movement in northern Italy. The Nazis sentenced him to death in 1943, but again he escaped and became Socialist Party secretary in 1945.

Pertini was elected to parliament after the war's end and re-elected continually in the decades that followed — serving two terms as president of the chamber of deputies. For a while he edited the party newspaper, "L'Avanti."

His independent line made him acceptable to an array of parties of the left and right, and as two-term president of the lower house of parliament from 1968 to 1975 he was a noted mediator whenever tempers flared in the chamber.

Pertini had hoped to win the presidency in 1971, but lost to the Christian Democrat Leone. After Leone's fall and the assassination of Aldo Moro — whom many believed to be next in line for the presidency — Pertini emerged as a compromise candidate after 15 ballots in parliament.

He immediately brought an open style to the post, refusing to live in the pomp of the Quirinal palace on the advice of his independent-minded wife.

Pope John Paul II praised Pertini as "a man committed to the struggle for liberty and democracy" Sunday in a message of condolence sent to the Italian head of state.

The Pope expressed particular appreciation for the "anxious attention and constant solidarity" Pertini showed at the time Turkish terrorist Mehmet Ali Agca shot and wounded John Paul in St Peter's Square May 13, 1981.

Although Pertini, who died late Saturday aged 93, styled himself a "non-believer," he established a close friendship with the Pope. On several occasions they dined informally together and in July, 1984 the Pope invited Pertini to join him in a two-day skiing trip in the Italian Alps.

The Pope's telegram sent to President Francesco Cossiga, said in full:

"Informed by your excellency at dawn this morning of the sad news of the death of Senator Sandro Pertini, your predecessor as president of the republic, I wish to express my profound participation in the grief for the disappearance of the significant figure of a man committed to the struggle for liberty and democracy."

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INTERNATIONAL

Germany must be in Nato

Kohl and Bush agree in Camp David meeting

CAMP DAVID, Feb 25, (Agencies): US President George Bush said today he and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl agreed that a unified Germany should remain a full member of the Nato Western military alliance.

He and Kohl held a joint news conference to cap two days of talks at the presidential mountaintop retreat of Camp David.

Bush said the two leaders agreed the territory that is now East Germany should have a special "military status" that would protect the interest of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has called for a unified German state to be neutral.

"That enduring German-American partnership has never been stronger, as

Chancellor Kohl steps toward a golden moment in the history of his country," Bush said.

The US President said "if events are moving faster than we expected, it just means our common goal" of a unified Germany would be achieved sooner than expected. Unification talks between East and West Germany are to begin after East German elections March 18.

The four World War II allies — Britain and France, the United States and Soviet Union — have agreed to then hold talks with the two Germanys on external repercussions, including security issues, of reunification.

East Germany is a member of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact, and some

European nations along with Moscow support a neutral Germany rather than one allied with the United States and its Nato allies.

East Germany is abandoning its communist government and the Germanys are pursuing a common currency based on the West German system.

"The security link between North American and Europe is ... also for a united Germany, of vital importance," Kohl said through an interpreter. He reiterated his support for the continuing presence of US military forces in Germany.

On other key issue of reunification, Kohl said he told Bush his government respects "the legitimate security interests

of all states and we respect people's feelings ... especially addressing our Polish neighbours."

The comment was designed to assuage Poland's concerns that a unified Germany might seek to reclaim territory the allies granted Poland after World War II. About one-third of present-day Poland formerly was German territory.

Kohl stopped short of pledging outright that a unified Germany would give up claims to the region. A final decision on that issue would be made by a "freely elected all-German government and a freely elected all-German Parliament."

Bush then said the United States recognises the existing German-Polish border, backing Poland's position.



Bush waves from a golf cart as he welcomes Kohl at the Camp David presidential retreat. (Reuter wirephoto)



Bush talks to Kohl (left) as Baker (right) looks on. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mandela urges black unity

He's only a man: Mandela ex-wife

DURBAN, South Africa, Feb 25, (Reuters): Nationalist leader Nelson Mandela made a stirring appeal for unity against apartheid today, telling black factions fighting in South Africa's Natal province to throw their guns into the sea.

"Our unity is our defence, and the unmaking of our oppressors," he told a rally of 100,000 people in Durban capital of the Indian Ocean province, where more than 2,000 people have died in three years of fighting between rival blacks.

"Take your guns, your knives, your pangas (swords) and throw them into the sea. End this war," he said.

In a test of his authority over voiceless majority blacks, the African National Congress (ANC) figurehead offered to make peace with the rival Zulu Inkatha Movement and announced he would soon hold peace talks with Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini.

Clashes between members of the country's largest black tribe and ANC allies in the United Democratic Front (UDF) anti-apartheid coalition in Natal have also made up to 100,000 people homeless.

Mandela, freed two weeks ago from a life jail term for conspiracy to overthrow white rule, said the violence had caused him the most anguish of his later years in prison.

Making his third speech at a rally since his release, he said: "We extend the hand of peace to

LONDON, Feb 25, (Reuters): The former wife of Nelson Mandela said in an article today the world expected too much of the man she once loved but who later abandoned and humiliated her.

Evelyn Mandela, who was divorced from the South African black leader in 1957, told the Sunday Telegraph the marriage ran into difficulties when Mandela became more involved with the African National Congress and often failed to return home at night.

"When I asked about it, he said 'no policemen ask questions like you,'" said the 68-year-old Bible teacher who bore Mandela four children.

She dismissed a comment by Frank Chikane, the secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, who likened Mandela's release after 27 years in prison to

the second coming of Christ.

"The whole world worships Nelson too much. He is only a man," she said.

Evelyn said she and Mandela had not communicated since their divorce and his marriage to Winnie Madikizela a year later.

"When he was arrested in 1962 I went to see him, but he didn't want to see me. I felt so humiliated," she said at her home in the black homeland of Transkei.

She said she would never expect to see Mandela again but wished him well.

"Nelson knows where I am, but I won't be contacting him. He might be president of this country but it will be under difficult conditions because there will be no peace. I wish him well ... but the world is building Nelson up too much. I know he is only a man," Evelyn said.

In an article in the Observer newspaper

Mandela said he had never felt a moment's hatred for a white person despite the years of police harassment suffered by his wife Winnie and their family.

Mandela said the treatment of his family by the authorities made him angry but he could never hate the individuals "carrying out the policies of apartheid."

"Anger is a temporary feeling. You won't forget it, particularly if you are involved in positive activities and attitudes," he said.

Winnie Mandela was repeatedly arrested, imprisoned and detained under security laws. Her home was fire-bombed twice and an attempt was made to place a bomb in her car.

"Knowing these things were happening to my family and that I could do nothing to protect them was the most painful part of my imprisonment," Mandela said.

ish forces equipped with rifles and artillery.

Speaking in English and Zulu and flanked by his wife Winnie and close comrade Walter Sisulu on the podium, he urged women to lead the drive for reconciliation.

"Tell your sons, your brothers and your husbands that you want peace and security ... open your cooking pots and ask them why there is so little food inside," he said.

The answer, he said, was "our common deprivation."



Mandela, Winnie and a niece applaud a performance of witchdoctors. (Reuter wirephoto)



Tribal witchdoctors perform during the welcoming ceremony at Mandela's Soweto house Feb 24. (Reuter wirephoto)

West Africa's old guard rattled by protests for reforms

COTONOU, Benin, Feb 25, (Reuters): Emboldened by the fall of Eastern Europe's dictatorships, many young West Africans are clamouring for the political freedom and prosperity that their old guard autocratic leaders have failed to deliver.

The suddenness and scale of the discontent has surprised many of the generals and tribal chiefs who have ruled much of former French West Africa with an iron hand for decades.

Protests since December by government workers who have not been paid and students with bright job prospects have quickly turned political.

Demonstrators calling for an end to one-party rule have faced bullets in Benin and

Niger, tanks in Gabon and tear-gas in Ivory Coast.

The pressure for change was illustrated last week by three unprecedented events:

● Widespread student demonstrations against Ivorian leader Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Africa's longest serving president.

● The forced agreement by Benin's President Mathieu Kérékou that opponents could rewrite the constitution and pave the way for his possible removal through elections.

● The dissolution of Gabon's ruling party and the creation of what President Omar Bongo called a new reform-minded party.

The collapse of single-party rule in Eastern

Europe has encouraged the protesters to believe their leaders are not immovable, according to students, politicians, academics and diplomats in the region.

But the driving force behind the unrest has been sub-Saharan Africa's painful slide into poverty during the 1980s, they said.

Africans are no better off now than they were 30 years ago while living standards elsewhere have risen. Black Africa's output of goods and services is the same as that of tiny Belgium.

Most sub-Saharan countries have adopted International Monetary Fund (IMF) reforms resulting in painful cuts in government spending and massive redundancies.

Falling export earnings, economic mismanagement, corruption and the lack of constitutional checks and balances have brought several African countries to the brink of collapse.

Nowhere is this more evident than in Benin, where 15 years of Marxism-Leninism have left the former French colony virtually bankrupt and at the mercy of Western donors.

"This country like many others has had to hit rock bottom before it would listen," said Nicéphore Soglo, a Beninese economist who has left the World Bank to begin a political career back home.

At Western bidding Kérékou abandoned Marxism last December and called a con-

ference of all political forces to work out reforms against a background of student protests and civil service strikes.

"This conference and the call for political reform are a direct result of the economic mess," a monetary official said.

"Countries like Ivory Coast and Cameroon, where the banking system is wobbling and the economy in difficulty, are not immune to the sea ... of change."

Leaders used to say that Africa was not ripe for democracy," Soglo said. "That is not the problem. The truth is there is no lasting development or structural adjustment without multi-party democracy."

Senegal is the only West African state with

multiple parties although English-speaking Nigeria, which has Black Africa's biggest economy and population, plans to return from military rule to a two-party civilian democracy by 1992.

Since the unrest began France has kept a low public profile but its role in the future of its old colonies and their leaders is crucial, many of them afraid French troops are stationed in Ivory Coast, Gabon, Chad, Senegal and the Central African Republic.

"So far France is sticking to the status quo and standing by the old guard," said an African politician who declined to be identified.

Lithuanians vote for independence

Sajudis sweep to victory

VILNIUS, USSR, Feb 25, (Agencies): Lithuania's opposition Sajudis organisation swept to victory in most declared election results today as the Soviet republic's voters dealt a crushing blow to the Communist Party.

But Sajudis leader Vytautas Landsbergis cautioned that new, almost dictatorial powers sought by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev may become the main obstacle to Lithuanian independence and that military intervention could not be ruled out.

"Gorbachev may get a wide scope of power," Landsbergis said adding "they want to stop the collapse of the Soviet Union. The power may be aimed at blocking Lithuanian independence."

He said Sajudis representatives and Lithuanian Communist Party leader Algirdas Brazauskas will travel to Moscow this evening to start talks with the Soviet leadership.

Brazauskas scored an overwhelming victory in the first official results announced by the election commission.

A likely presidential contender in a free Lithuania, the popular leader, who withdrew his party from the Soviet Communist Party, won 91.7 per cent of the votes in his district.

Official results from Saturday's election were slow in coming, but unofficial results provided by the well-organised Sajudis umbrella organisation said a landslide victory had been won.

"If it is not a landslide, I don't know what a landslide is," said Algimantas Cekuolis, member of Sajudis 35-person executive council who added independence of Moscow was "attainable this year."

Sajudis official Rupsyte Augonite said the organisation's candidates had won 72 seats in the 142-member Parliament while the two communist parties had won 29 mandates. Run-offs would have to be held in 45 races in which no candidate won more than half the votes.

Augonite said six races were to be held again due to unspecified voting irregularities.

Of the 90 results released so far, Sajudis said 48 are non-party, 22 are from the independent Lithuanian Communist Party, seven from the Moscow-backed Communist Party, nine Social Democrats, two Greens and two Christian Democrats.

But the Sajudis spokeswoman said the new Parliament, which is expected to call for independence of the Soviet Union, would be unable to convene yet because half of its members have not been elected.

Augonite said runoff were to take place on March 10 and the six repeated elections on April 7.

Cekuolis said elections were boycotted in one region of Suwalka outside Vilnius by the Russian population which did not want to vote for Sergei Rykov, a member of the loyalist communists who was running for reelection.

"If the Russians are boycotted by the election commission, they would give the organisation outright control of the Parliament and set the stage for Lithuania's independence from a half century Soviet rule."

As voters flocked to the polls Saturday, many residents said the elections opened a new chapter in Lithuanian history because the Parliament would be chosen democratically for the first time since the Soviet Union absorbed the tiny nation, along with neighbouring Estonia and Latvia, in 1940.

"The nation will choose its own Parliament," said Wladyslaw Mackiewicz, one of Lithuania's 400,000 ethnic Poles, who has lived in the country since the Soviet rule was ended, and we have to repair everything."

Romania to follow FBI style

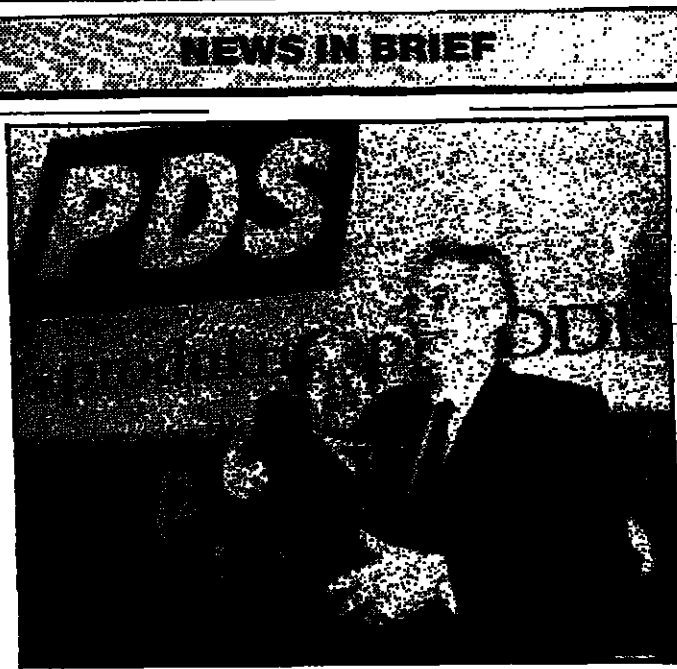
BUCHAREST, Feb 25, (AP): The defence minister announced plans yesterday to convert the secret police's internal security operations into a domestic law enforcement agency resembling the US Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Victor A. Stanculescu, a lieutenant general, also told reporters he had agreed to work with officers demanding a purge in the army of elements associated with executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Dozens of officers who played a leading role in the December revolution that ousted Ceausescu and ended more than four decades of communist rule, held a week of demonstrations earlier this month that prompted the removal of the previous defence minister.

Stanculescu also announced that the government planned to maintain the tunnels used by Securitate, Ceausescu's dreaded secret police, in case they are needed in wartime.

The underground labyrinth has become a symbol of the repressive, paranoid control maintained by Ceausescu during his 24-year tenure that ended with his toppling Dec 22 and his execution three days later.



East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow (right) and Communist Party (PDS) leader Gregor Gysi (left) hug each other during a party meeting in East Berlin. (Reuter wirephoto)

Modrow to lead communists in election: After several days of waffling, East German Premier Hans Modrow announced yesterday he would lead the former Communist Party in March 18 elections, but warned the party it must make a radical break with the past or lose all credibility.

Modrow is the most popular figure in the Party for Democratic Socialism (PDS), the successor to the Communist Party that ruled East Germany with an iron fist for four decades.

However, polls have predicted massive gains for East Germany's Social Democrats and Christian Democrats as this nation of 16 million turns its back on the communists, who were the only legal party until last fall.

Both parties have ruled out forming a coalition government with Modrow's PDS should no clear majority emerge in the vote for East Germany's parliament.

Modrow got a standing ovation from the 530 delegates at the party's two-day Congress in East Berlin when he announced his decision, which he said "has not been easy," according to East Germany's official news agency ADN.

"The former communists 'must make a consistent break with the past, without which the party for democratic socialism won't be credible,' ADN quoted Modrow as saying. (AP)

Honecker accused of taking funds: Disgraced former East German leader Erich Honecker is suspected of siphoning off millions of dollars paid by Bonn for release of political prisoners, the official ADN news agency said yesterday.

It cited the state prosecutor as saying Honecker, swept from office in October after 18 years in power, was accused of paying 75 million marks (\$44 million) of the money last year alone into a personal East German bank account.

Honecker, 77, faces charges of corruption along with about 30 other leaders of his former government. Six former members of his ruling politburo are in prison, but he has been freed to recover from a cancer operation.

Since the early 1960s Bonn has paid East Germany huge sums to allow political prisoners — usually dissident or people caught trying to flee to the West — to emigrate.

The agreements, always surrounded by secrecy, were denounced by critics as "trading in human flesh." But Bonn insisted it helped ease suffering caused by the division of families and by a harsh Marxist government. (Reuter)

Anti-communist protest in Sofia

Anger at slow pace of reform

SOFIA, Feb 25, (Reuters): More than 50,000 Bulgarians, frustrated with slow pace of reform in their country, rallied in central Sofia today to protest against the ruling Communist Party.

Eyewitnesses said the crowd, which packed a square and side streets near party headquarters, waved banners with slogans such as "enough nightmares" and "liberty, freedom, justice" others chanted "down with the Bulgarian Communist Party."

Members of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces which had organised the rally were cheered as they called for an end to communist rule.

Bulgaria's new communist leaders, who ousted Todor Zhivkov last November, have renounced their automatic right to rule and begun round table talks with the once-banned

opposition groups.

But the UDF, which groups Bulgaria's 13 leading opposition groups, says the party is dragging its feet in much needed economic reforms and delaying changes needed to give the opposition a fair chance of contesting the country's first free elections in four decades, due in May.

"Bulgaria could be a Garden of Eden, but 43 years ago we gave ourselves a goat as a gardener," UDF member Alexander Chirkov told the cheering crowd in a reference to the communist takeover. "Let us not elect another goat."

In an apparent concession, the party's ruling supreme council said on Friday it would be prepared to postpone parliamentary elections until June in order to give the opposition more time to prepare.

Journalists



King Hussein of Jordan (top) opens the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) summit in Amman. (Reuters wirephoto)

Arab move to halt Jewish migration

Diplomatic offensive planned

AMMAN, Feb 25, (Agencies): Arab countries are to launch a diplomatic offensive against the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel, seeking action from the United Nations and planning to put pressure on Soviet, US, and European leaders.

Jordan's Foreign Minister Marwan Qassem told a news conference after a four-nation summit that Arab foreign ministers would meet in Tunis next month to plan their operation. The leaders of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and North Yemen, grouped in the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), said after a one-day summit yesterday that the Soviet Jewish migration was a flagrant violation of international law and human rights.

The ACC leaders said Washington and Moscow were responsible for the Soviet Jewish influx and branded it "an open aggression against the rights of the Palestinian people and a threat to the Arab order and current Middle East peace efforts."

Qassem told reporters last yesterday that a comprehensive Arab course of action on the Soviet Jewish exodus would be decided next month by the Arab League foreign ministers.

"Our leaders have directed that we move with the rest of the Arab brothers at the next meetings of the foreign ministers which will take place next month in Tunis and from there we will launch a comprehensive Arab plan of action on the American, Soviet and European scene," Qassem said.

"There will also be participation at a ministerial level in the meetings of the UN Security Council that will convene next month and are slated to discuss Soviet Jewish migration."

Qassem said the United Nations should at least reaffirm support for resolutions that call for an exchange of land for peace and declare settlements in occupied lands illegal.

In a swipe at Washington, he said: "Some big powers have contradictory attitudes. On the one hand they back peace based on UN resolutions

242 and 338, while on the other they fail to emphasize the illegality of settlements in the occupied lands."

The United States says Israeli settlements do not help peace but has not called them illegal for the past decade.

The ACC leaders voiced support for the PLO and said Israeli intransigence was blocking peace efforts.

President Mubarak of Egypt, the only Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel, said: "Egypt urges a historic reconciliation between Israel and the Palestinian people in accordance with principles endorsed by the international community."

The ACC was set up a year ago primarily as an economic bloc, but political issues, especially the impact of international changes on the Arab world, dominated the Amman summit.

Jordan's King Hussein, assuming the rotating ACC presidency for one year, told the meeting: "If we do not define our role in the world, others will define it for us."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Moscow's retreat from the Arab world to concentrate on domestic affairs would give the United States primary influence in the region for another five years.

"Since the major advocate of the Arabs in their conflict with the Zionists has withdrawn from the field and the Zionist lobby still enjoys full power over Washington's policies, the Arabs should consider that Israel might decide at any time to commit new foolish adventures," the Iraqi leader said.

He suggested Arabs could switch their investments from the United States to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to combat Israel's influence in Washington.

"As Israel uses certain lobbies to influence the American administration, the Arabs can exploit their billions of dollars in America and the West to serve Arab goals," he said.

In Riyadh, North Yemen's President, Ali Abdullah Saleh, flew today to a remote military outpost in Saudi Arabia to brief King Fahd on ACC summit talks on Jewish emigration to Israel.

2 Palestinians may join talks

Israel relents a little

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 25, (Agencies): US Secretary of State James Baker has discussed with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens a proposal to let two Palestinian activists join Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, Israel television said yesterday.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was likely to meet Arens and two other top ministers to review the proposal, which envisages an Arab expelled from the occupied territories and an East Jerusalem resident joining the talks, a broadcaster said.

The television said the idea was raised in a Washington meeting on Friday between Arens and Baker and in recent talks between Likud Party Minister Without Portfolio Ehud Olmert and US officials.

The United States and Egypt, which are sponsoring first-ever Israeli-Palestinian talks on Israel's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, are pressing the Jewish state for a quick decision to keep diplomatic efforts alive.

The television said the Arab deportee, was acceptable to Shamir's right-wing Likud Party.

The East Jerusalem Palestinian was Radwan Abu Ayyash, head of the Arab Journalists' Association and a prominent supporter of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

It said that the proposal was formulated by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Ehud Olmert said today the Jewish state should look at its own interest and not be rushed into deciding its stand on peace talks with Palestinians on the basis of outside pressure.

Olmert, close to Shamir, was speaking shortly after a call by Baker for action and not more words.

"We don't have to decide our position based on an assumption this is urgent to someone else and therefore we have to accelerate our steps. We must take steps based on our own considerations, interests and timetables," Olmert said.

But Olmert, who has just returned from Washington, told army radio there was "no feeling of urgency" in Europe and the United States for solutions to the Middle East conflict. The dispute had lost its prominence to other world events.

Shamir's office said the prime minister could call his top three ministers for a crucial meeting on Monday after being briefed by Arens on his talks with Baker in Washington.

US administration sources said Baker told Arens it was time Israel wholeheartedly backed its own election proposal.

Army radio said Washington named two activists to be part of the Palestinian delegation at planned Cairo peace talks with Israel. They were selected in an effort to bridge a gap between Israel and the PLO on the participation of deportees and Arabs from Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem.

The radio named the two, both journalists, as Akram Haniyeh, expelled by Israel in 1986 for suspected PLO activities, and Radwan Abu Ayyash, a prominent pro-PLO journalist from the West Bank with an office in East Jerusalem.

In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, site of a 26-month-old anti-Israel uprising, Palestinians obeyed a strike call by the Islamic fundamentalist movement Hamas in protest at a fire that ravaged a West Bank mosque on January 26.

Masked Palestinians yesterday shot dead a West Bank Arab who they suspected of helping Israel.

One Western diplomat questioned a prisoner exchange dominated by Pakistanis.

"Why should they (rebels) give them (Soviet prisoners) away for a handful of Pakistanis and Arabs?" he said.

"Thousands of Afghan prisoners are unaccounted for or known to be held by the regime in Kabul," said the same diplomat.

"They (Soviet prisoners) are the only cards they have in the deck and they are not going to give them up for nothing."

The five rebel prisoners were reportedly released on Feb 11, said the Soviet official.

"We have never heard or seen these prisoners they say they have released," said Farooq Azam, who three months ago gave a Soviet delegation a list of rebels believed to be in jail in Kabul. The Soviet official in Islamabad said four of the five were apparently on the list.

The two Soviet Army privates, Andrei Lopukh and Valery Prokashuk, were released Nov 27 in the rugged frontier city of Peshawar, where Afghan insurgents are headquartered.

Dozens of armed rebels surrounded the fortress-like headquarters for the elaborate ceremonies.

Moscow's Ambassador to Pakistan, Victor Yakunin, sat beside rebel leaders for the first time to witness the release. Tearful mothers hugged the sons they hadn't seen in more than two years.

On Thursday headline socialists are expected to stage a determined challenge to the reforms at an FLN central committee meeting. They also want changes to a reformist-dominated politburo elected in December.

The most serious split party is the centre-left Social Democratic Party, whose rival factions are planning separate congresses in March and May from separate headquarters.

Personality clashes and differences over the role of Islam in politics contributed to the feud between party president Abderrahmane Adjrid and a rebel group, which he is suing for accusing him of misusing party funds.

Adjrid attributes the crisis to the "growing pains" of democracy.

major obstacle to resettling thousands of Soviet Jews arriving in Israel — the lack of jobs, especially for the well-educated.

"We are going to have to make jobs for these people if we are going to keep them," Branover said.

Israel's Science Ministry estimates 60,000 scientists, engineers and medical doctors will arrive in the next two or three years under Moscow's more liberal emigration policies.

Branover is pushing the govern-



Rescue operation

A doctor provides help for a man injured when the Cypriot ferry Baroness M was attacked by a gunboat off the Lebanese coast just after dawn on Saturday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aoun will have to pay the price

Trapped between defeat, destruction

BEIRUT, Feb 25, (Reuters): After nearly a month of devastating war for control of Lebanon's Christian enclave, General Michel Aoun is trapped between political defeat or further destruction of the prize.

"Aoun rushed into something he had to win completely or he would lose," said a Western diplomat. "He has failed to win on the ground and now has to weigh his few choices to ensure his long-term survival. He is hesitating because it is a hard choice."

Mediators have arranged an eight-day-old ceasefire between the forces of Aoun and those of Samir Geagea, chief of the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia. But many in the Christian enclave fear the combatants are merely regrouping for further bloodshed.

Geagea welcomes efforts to stabilise the status quo as he holds much of the ground and key food, transport and energy facilities.

For Aoun, however, accepting the status quo would represent the biggest defeat he has suffered since being named to head a Christian administration in September 1988.

"If the war stops now, Aoun will stay but will have to pay the price of political compromise," the diplomat said. "He and Geagea may be publicly reconciled but privately they will doubtless continue to work for each other's downfall."

Most Western diplomatic sources believe the ceasefire cannot last and say Aoun and Geagea are doomed to fight to the finish.

But Christian politicians say that while war could break out again, both sides have come to realise the cost and might be ready for co-operation.

So far more than 700 people have been killed and 2,500 wounded since fighting erupted when

Aoun ordered the 10,000-strong LF to disarm on Jan 31.

The diplomatic sources thought it unlikely that Syrian forces would try to halt the fighting.

"Why should the Syrians intervene in this mess," one asked. "They can watch both sides destroy themselves while any attack may unite Geagea and Aoun."

Aoun's 15,000 troops hold one-third of the enclave which even before the fighting was gripped by an economic crisis and cannot hope to function unless supplies and people can move freely.

The LF has consolidated control over the port of Jounieh and also holds a makeshift airstrip on a section of the coastal highway at Halat.

"Aoun and his supporters can't even leave Lebanon without passing through LF- or Syrian-held areas. He has at last well and truly cornered himself," said a veteran Lebanese commentator.

The prospect of renewed fighting against the LF, which has proved itself a tenacious opponent, would be daunting for Aoun.

"Militarily the army should still be able to beat the LF," said a Western military analyst. "But at the present rate of progress it will probably take several weeks and it is doubtful the army can sustain an offensive that long."

The devastation in LF pockets captured by the army in tank and artillery battles so far — in which hardly a building escaped unscathed — provides ample evidence of the destruction renewed fighting would bring.

At least 10 per cent of the enclave's 900,000 residents are estimated to have fled to safer areas, either in Syrian-controlled territory or abroad.

No clue to Cypriot ferry attack

Snipers clash in jumpy Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb 25, (Agencies): Snipers from rival Christian forces skirmished in Beirut today, keeping nerves on edge as most roads in the capital's eastern sector were reopened for the first time in nearly three weeks amid a shaky ceasefire.

Christian and Palestinian mediators sought to end the bloodletting between rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

But after fighting each other to a standstill, there was still real sign of an end to the 25-day-old confrontation in which nearly 700 people have been killed and parts of the city left in ruins.

Aoun, thwarted in his campaign to crush Geagea and remove the only military challenge to his claim to be the uncrowned ruler of the Christian enclave north of Beirut, refuses to make a deal that leaves the Lebanese Forces intact.

Geagea's headquarters reported one of their fighters was killed in the day-long sniper duels and Aoun's command said two of his soldiers were wounded by militia gunmen.

"This reflects the gunmen's real intentions, despite their claims that they want a settlement to the conflict," Aoun's Radio Lebanon said.

The Lebanese Forces accused Aoun's soldiers of firing into residential districts in East Beirut.

By police count, at least 691 people have been killed and 1,915 wounded in the fighting that erupted Jan 30, the worst between Christian rivals since the civil war between Muslims and Christians broke out in April

1975.

Aoun's troops have corralled thousands of Geagea's militiamen in several districts of East Beirut in the power struggle for control of the 310-square-kilometre (800-square-kilometre) enclave.

The roads crossing the confrontation lines were reopened after several days of negotiations between the rival forces by a mediation committee of three independent Christian leaders.

Some of the roads had been mined and others remain so, posing dangers to civilians fleeing to safer areas or trying to repair their shattered homes.

A committee statement said the mediators will continue their efforts "until all roads are reopened and the combatants disengaged."

The statement said the committee will tackle the political issues between Aoun and Geagea after stabilising the ceasefire that was called Feb 17.

Geagea, whose forces control the Christian sector's ports and two third of the enclave, has indicated he is prepared to negotiate.

But Aoun, who started the fighting last month by moving against Geagea, showed no sign of seeking a negotiated settlement.

"I want the problem settled peacefully and not by military means," he was quoted as saying by the London-based Al Hayat newspaper. "That's why I continue to support the mediation committee's efforts."

"However, I'm convinced that the committee will not be able to achieve any result because Geagea's declared stands con-

tradict his statements," Aoun said.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who fought the Christians for seven years before his 1982 defeat, has sent his Lebanese representative, Zeid Wehbe, to Beirut to mediate in the Christian power struggle.

The 3,987-ton Baroness M is expected to be in dock for a month after the unidentified attacker fired on it off the coast off Lebanon killing one passenger and wounding 18.

And the captain of the other ferry serving the Christian port of Jounieh told Reuters today he and his crew would not sail until they received assurances about their safety.

"We are afraid because we don't know what the situation is," said Demetris Vrakas, captain of the 4,000-ton Sunny Boat. "I said I won't go. It could happen to me."

Three British Royal Air Force helicopters winched seriously injured passengers off the deck of the Baroness M after shells smashed into the ship's passenger area and the ship's cabin.

Larnaca hospital officials said today none was in critical condition but six had undergone surgery, mainly to remove shrapnel.

More than a day after the gunboat slammed at least 16 shells into the starboard hull of the Baroness M, the identity of the boat and the motive for the attack were still unclear.

An Israeli gunboat attacked at dawn yesterday the Lebanese ferry boat "Baroness M" while on a voyage to Larnaca port in order to arrest a Palestinian delegation on board, the Qatari News Agency reported.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Iran opposes hostage-taking: Iran's top judge Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi was quoted on Sunday as saying his country opposed hostage-taking, terrorism and hijacking. (Reuters)

US drafts UN resolution: The United States has drafted a UN resolution regarding the settlement of Jewish immigrants in Israeli-occupied territories, Arab diplomats said on Sunday.

The diplomats said a working paper circulated at the United Nations on Friday by US Ambassador Thomas Pickering stopped short of condemning Israeli settlement policy as illegal. (Reuters)

Medical conference: The first Arab conference for heart diseases called for establishing specialised medical teams to visit Arab countries lacking heart specialists and perform surgeries. (Kuna)

Drug smuggling gangs smashed: Iran's security forces have smashed six gangs of drug smugglers and seized 1,142 kilograms (2,510 pounds) of heroin and opium in Tehran in the last week, Tehran Radio reported on Sunday. (AP)

Britons require visas: British citizens will have to obtain visas to enter Algeria beginning April 1, the Algerian government announced on Saturday. (AP)

Sahara peace plan: A UN envoy trying to revive a stalled peace plan for western Sahara has held talks with King Hassan of Morocco, the official news agency Map said on Sunday.

It said Johannes Manz met the king at the seaside resort of Agadir on Saturday after touring the territory, where Polisario guerrillas have been fighting for independence for 14 years. (Reuters)

Turkey-Iran ties improve

ANKARA, Feb 25, (Reuters): Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut travels to Iran on Tuesday, heralding what Ankara hopes will be a fresh chapter of co-operation as relations improve.

"There is a new understanding and there is a new dynamism," Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sunar said.

Officials said all aspects of ties would be discussed in Tehran, including trade, oil and gas pipeline projects and Kurdish rebels waging an insurgency in southeastern Turkey.

Turkish State Minister Guner Taner said on Friday after talks in Tehran that agreement had been reached on a natural gas and oil pipeline from Iran to third countries through Turkey.

Talks on the two long-mooted links, with the oil pipeline along costing about four billion dollars, had been delayed because of Gulf war fighting and financial problems in Iran.

Relations between Turkey, a mainly Muslim but secular state, and fundamentalist Iran were strained last year when Tehran criticised a court ban on the wearing of Islamic-style headscarves at Turkish universities.

Baghdad puts off Britons' trial

LONDON, Feb 25, (Agencies): The trial in Iraq of a British nurse and an Iranian-born journalist on spying charges has been postponed for two weeks, the British Foreign Office said today.

Daphne Parish, who worked at a Baghdad hospital, and Farzad Bazoft, an Observer newspaper writer, were arrested, were to be tried by an Iraqi court on Monday.

The Foreign Office spokesman said Iraq had told Britain that the trial date had been shifted to March 8. No reason was given for the postponement, he added.

The pair were arrested while Bazoft was checking reports of an explosion at a military installation south of Baghdad for the Observer. Parish took him to the area in a hospital car.

In an interview with British television today Parish's daughter said she was sure her mother was innocent. Michelle de Vries, 21, said the postponement meant the pair would have more time to prepare a strong case.

Britain has called on Iraq to ensure that Parish, 52, and Bazoft, 31, receive a fair trial.

Bazoft, in what Britain called "trial by television," has said on Baghdad television he spied for Israel.

If convicted the pair face life imprisonment or death.

Bazoft, was charged along with Mrs Parish with "hostile acts against Iraq" after visiting a military plant south of Baghdad last September to investigate reports of an explosion that might have killed up to 700 people.

On Friday the Observer issued a statement saying Iraq has refused to allow editor Donald Treford to attend the trial. The Iraqi embassy in London said no one from the Observer would be allowed to attend, nor would it permit a British attorney to observe or assist in the defence, the newspaper said.

A British journalist held for questioning in Sudan since Wednesday is unlikely to be charged and could be freed this week, British embassy officials said today.

They said Nairobi-based Julian Ozmame, 25, was being questioned about what Sudanese officials described as documents unrelated to his work which were found in his hotel room.

Ozmame, who reports for Britain's Financial Times and the Sunday Correspondent, arrived in Khartoum eight days ago for the latest of several trips to the country since 1988.

EPLF moves away from Marxism

NAIROBI, Feb 25, (Reuters): The rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), at war with the Ethiopian government, moved further away from Marxism yesterday by announcing new free-market economic policies.

The Front said in a communique issued from London it would allow unrestricted private business.

The EPLF was founded as a Cuban-backed Marxist guerrilla movement in 1970, fighting for the independent of the Red Sea Ethiopian province of Eritrea.

major obstacle to resettling thousands of Soviet Jews arriving in Israel — the lack of jobs, especially for the well-educated.

"We are going to have to make jobs for these people if we are going to keep them," Branover said.

Israel's Science Ministry estimates 60,000 scientists, engineers and medical doctors will arrive in the next two or three years under Moscow's more liberal emigration policies.

Branover is pushing the govern-

Infighting shaking Algerian parties

ALGIERS, Feb 25, (Reuters): Internal crises are shaking Algerian political parties four months before the first multi-party elections since independence in 1962.

Some commentators say the rows threaten to sour the democratic process launched a year ago by a new constitution which ended 27 years of one-party politics.

"The crises in the young (opposition) groups are having a very serious effect on the democratic process," said the weekly revolution Africaine, linked to the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

The FLN, which has governed Algeria since independence from France, is itself racked by a dispute over an economic liberalisation programme launched by President Chadli Benjedid.

On Thursday headline socialists are expected to stage a determined challenge to the reforms at an FLN central committee meeting. They also want changes to a reformist-dominated politburo elected in December.

The most serious split party is the centre-left Social Democratic Party, whose rival factions are planning separate congresses in March and May from separate headquarters.

Personality clashes and differences over the role of Islam in politics contributed to the feud between party president Abderrahmane Adjrid and a rebel group, which he is suing for accusing him of misusing party funds.

Adjrid attributes the crisis to the "growing pains" of democracy.

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Immigrant Soviet Jewish scientists, doctors face slumping job market

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 25, (AP): An astrophysicist newly arrived from the Soviet Union offered to work as a cleaning woman in Professor Herman Branover's lab when told there was no scientific job available.

She would feel at home there, she said, and perhaps after hours she could do research on her own.

Branover, a Soviet-born physicist who immigrated in 1972, says the woman's plight underscores what he sees as a

major obstacle to resettling thousands of Soviet Jews arriving in Israel — the lack of jobs, especially for the well-educated.

"We are going to have to make jobs for these people if we are going to keep them," Branover said.

Israel's Science Ministry estimates 60,000 scientists, engineers and medical doctors will arrive in the next two or three years under Moscow's more liberal emigration policies.

Branover is pushing the govern-

ment to create new jobs, and in the meantime has established his own factory employing Soviet immigrants.

"The government is still talking about how to build housing for the immigrants," he complains. "I've never heard of anyone who didn't come to Israel or who left because of bad housing. But there are thousands who left because they couldn't find jobs."

The government estimates it will need \$3 billion over the next

three years to help resettle the Soviets. Most of the money will go for housing, education and Hebrew classes.

The government's plans have been made largely on the theory that a growing economy will produce jobs to absorb the new workers.

But some new immigrants already are finding the kind of work available is not to their liking.

In suburban Tel Aviv, two physicians were among several

dozen Soviet immigrants this week packing holiday matza crackers in crates for shipping.

Dr. Anatoly Roeburg, a cardiologist from Moldavia, told reporters: "Israel is a great place except we can't find proper work." He added: "If this goes on, I am not going to stay here."

Unlike the wave of immigrants that came to pre-state Israel in the 1930s and '40s, the new arrivals face a stagnant economy.

Jewish emigration a threat: Khalifa

UAE finds Opec quota unacceptable

By Mohammed Zein

THE President of the United Arab Emirates, the government and its people believe that the Jewish immigration to Israel, is one of the most dangerous turning points in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1967.

Commenting on this issue in an exclusive wide-ranging interview with the Arab Times, the Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahayan said that the immigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine does not only threaten the occupied Arab lands of Palestine, but the rest of the Arab world as well.

The official went on to state: "Emerging from its expansionist nature, Israel is looking to annex more Arab territories in the same manner that the Jewish immigration in the '30s and '40s of this century established the Jewish state in Palestine in 1948."

Sheikh Khalifa said that any addition to Israeli strength, economic, political and human, certainly reduces the opportunities of achieving a just peace in the Middle East. Such unchecked Jewish immigration will lead to a dangerous imbalance in the population in favour of Israel, allowing it to annex the remaining parts of the Arab occupied lands, ultimately resulting in threatening Arab security as a whole.

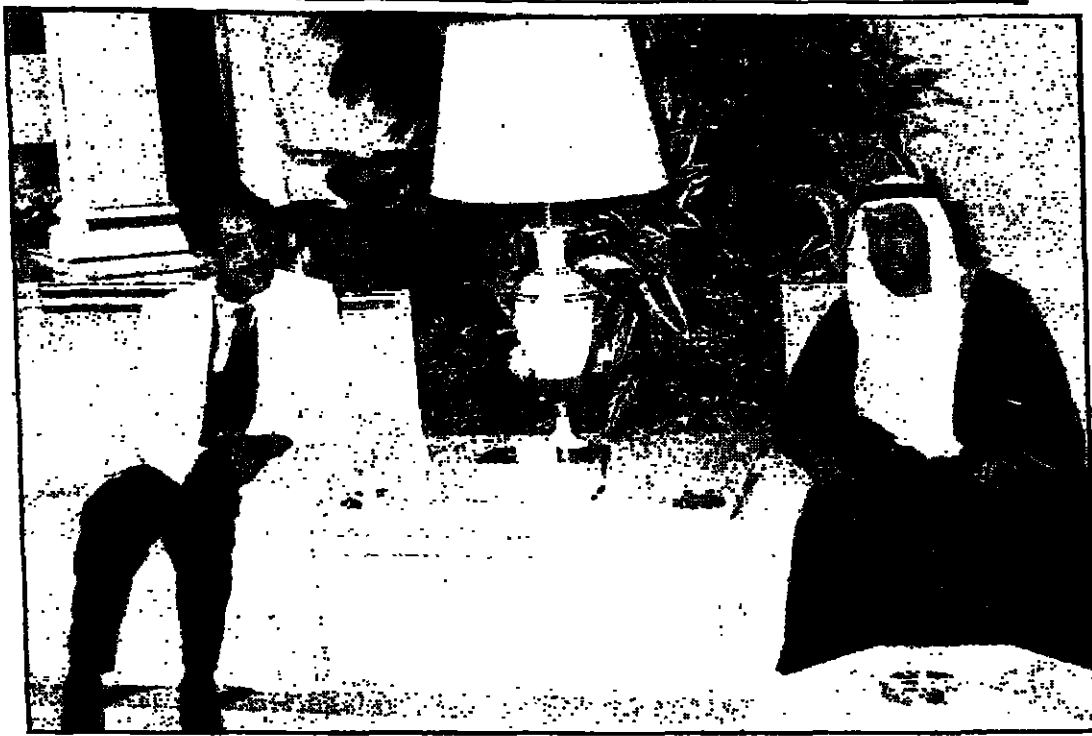
Strategies

Commenting on strategies to address the Israeli ambitions of achieving a greater Israel, the official said that some called for stopping the immigration, while others called for convening an extraordinary Arab summit to discuss a framework and still others called for forming an Arab committee to hold contacts with the Soviet Union and other parties concerned with the issue headed by the United States. All these options, the official said still fell far short of redressing the dangers posed by the influx of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine.

Sheikh Khalifa advocated calling urgently on the Soviet Union as a friendly superpower that has always supported the Arab cause to take necessary and practical measures to stop the flow of Soviet Jews to Israel. He added that the two superpowers and all peace loving people should rescind their passive attitudes towards this crime which violates the moral obligations of the big powers and others by permitting a man to be expelled from his house and replaced with a stranger.

The UAE, the official said calls for a high-level Arab move to be directed at the two superpowers and other countries concerned as also international organisations to stop directing the new Soviet Jews immigrant to the Arab lands.

In reply to a query about the recent agreement of Opec on production quotas, Sheikh Khalifa said that the UAE has honestly worked for the unity of Opec and for the stability of the oil market. To maintain the solidarity of Opec members, Sheikh Khalifa said that the UAE has accepted a smaller production quota — though it is not suitable to oil capabilities. He categorically stated: "We



Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahayan pictured with Arab Times correspondent Mohammed Zein.

are waiting for other members to share with us this sacrifice" and for the moment, we believe that we have become victims of all the agreements on oil production quotas. "It has now become unacceptable for us after the latest Opec agreements to continue to bear these sacrifices alone and adversely affect our oil relations in the international market."

Consequently, he said, that the UAE had decided to express reservations on the latest agreement and are looking forward very shortly to a new agreement that would grant the UAE its rightful oil production quotas. We will work to achieve this goal with an open mind and with complete co-operation to preserve the unity of organisation and permit it to achieve the stated goals, he added.

Considerations

Commenting on oil prices for the forthcoming years, he said that this will depend on several considerations, including the general situation in the international oil markets coupled with oil production rates and other economic factors which could be deemed beyond the control of Opec. However, he expressed optimism that prices would increase during the 1990s. He said that this optimism is based on the increasing world demand for oil in view of international economic developments and the paucity of new oil finds in the industrialised countries, in addition to unviable alternatives.

He described past years as a period of slump in oil prices which dictated the need for oil producing countries to resort to rationalisation of expenditure. With respect to the UAE, he said that it had learnt several lessons from this era which have given it a clear vision towards the future on how to moderate our decisions with respect to international issues.

Speaking on issues closer to home, Sheikh Nahayan said that the UAE is blessed with freedom and democracy, thanks to God and then to the wisdom of the President and added that the UAE citizen has the freedom to publicly express his views in the interests of the people.

The official said that all members of the UAE establishment are willing to meet and confer with citizens which is one trait of the traditional characteristics of ruling the country, based on deliberations and dialogue.

Consultation

He stressed the element of shura consultation as a basis for ruling in Islam as deeply established in the system and that the economic oil-related boom had not undermined the operations of this principle. He added that democracy and shura are deeply entrenched as a way of life which constitutes a solemn bond for national unity as publicly embodied in the UAE Federal National Council and the National Consultative Council.

The official said that the deep sense of national responsibility had opened up new vistas of success and strengthened the shura-based system which led to better manifestation of commitment and refinement of performance. He added that the elements of regional stability resulting from the cessation of the Iraq-Iran war had ushered in a new cycle of economic stability which synchronised with the improvement of oil prices.

Since 1988, bank debts were controlled and the UAE economy stabilised as a result of co-operation between the local banks and the Central Bank which overcame bad debts which emerged during the period of economic recession (1982-1986). He pointed out that the debts problem was experienced by all industrial and developing worlds.

He expressed hope that the year 1990 and the next five years would witness better economic improvement than those recorded in 1989 — both in new projects and increased banking and investment activities at the local level.

The official accorded great importance to national security and safeguarding of national achievements. These he said formed a central point in UAE national policy which emanated in the belief that social and economic development should be placed under arms protection.

Speaking on the issue of UAE

arms arsenal, the official drew on the famous saying of the President of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan who said: "Weakness invites aggression." The official commented that building of the country's strength is a step towards safeguarding and protecting peace, national achievements and homeland. This, he said, has become a strategic requirement due to the vital location of our country.

The aspect of peace, he said is too valuable to be left unprotected and so is security, particularly in a developing country and that the best guarantee for peace is being ever ready and continue to build one's power. The official commented that the UAE has the best ties with neighbouring countries — based on brotherhood, the same common goal and the furtherance of the cause of justice.

The official expressed his appreciation for the support provided by brotherly states and friends in the initial stages of UAE's build-up of military strategy and for the assistance of experts in qualifying citizens of UAE in building up their military arsenal.

He said that the emergence of Arab co-operation councils is but the result of strenuous endeavours to bring closer divided ranks of the Arab nation, contribute to ongoing efforts to achieve Arab unity and fulfill the pan-Arab aspiration towards the creation of a unified Arab force. In this respect, he said that any co-operative effort at a bilateral level is a good step towards positive contribution to building of Arab unity. Thus, existing regional or individual co-operation councils would not result in any conflict as they operate within the framework of the same Arab strategy. He urged urgency in attaining Arab unity to be better able to withstand economic and political challenges.

Co-operation

The official commented that the emergence of different Arab co-operation councils is a sure sign that an all-out Arab awakening is in progress and a strong manifestation that the Arab nation is fully capable of

appreciating the dangers of today. This he said is specially true at a time when there are strong attempts in the Western world to create a unified system for better operation and performance — such as the proposed European economic unity.

On the international scene, he said that amidst ongoing liberal changes that swept through East Europe into the USSR, the UAE had not overlooked building for itself an outstanding position in the world community as part of its policy of international openness and its awareness of rapid developments in the international arena.

He added that the President, Sheikh Zayed had the deep insight to lead the country to establishing bridges of co-operation with all sisterly and friendly countries in the world, based on a mutually respected principle of non-intervention into domestic affairs. However, the official said that normalisation of relations between the Gulf states and East European countries is a matter of individual concern of each country.

He underlined the deep concern by the GGC leaders to the events in East Europe and their mutual belief in unity of action towards these events. He disclosed that an extensive discussion of the dimensions of these changes was conducted during the recent GCC summit in Muscat and a ministerial committee was set up to follow this issue and prepare an adequate report.

Effects

Speaking of the change in the nature of the relations between the two superpowers, Sheikh Nahayan said that they would have far reaching effects on international relations and on Arab relations. Even if the Arabs did not get directly involved in conflict, the Arab arena will witness different forms of changes, the official said and called for joint co-operation at all levels to avoid being in the spectator's seat. He underscored this co-operative effort, particularly as the Israeli entity is one of the fastest regimes to react and benefit from these changes in the Western camp through establishing better relations and securing the emigration of a many Jewish emigrants as possible.

He stressed that we as Arabs must define our position and vis-a-vis, changes in the Eastern camp. He added that the coming stage is seen as a period of settling issues which have been suspended over a long period of time and we must take vital action to establish better relations with the West and the East.

He stressed the need to mobilise Arab potentials in the best interest of pan-Arab welfare and to maximise investment of Arab power. Pointing out that the decade of the 1990s leaves the room for the weak or the small, the official recommended drawing our international political policies based on careful plans and objectives.

He urged all Arabs to appreciate the unity of their destiny which is embodied in closing Arab ranks and unifying Arab will based on literal enactment and implementation of laws and teachings of the great religion, Islam.

EPC studying glass-recycling

33,000 tons discarded annually

THE Environment Protection Council is studying the feasibility of establishing a glass-recycling plant, according to Dr Mishal Al Mishan, head of the environmental studies section of the council.

He said that the council had suggested in one of its studies to build a centre for gathering and sorting out discarded paper and glass materials with the ultimate objective of recycling them. The official stressed on the importance of laying down a clear policy in organising the collection, sorting and recycling of these materials.

He went on to state that burying remains of these items as is being done presently makes it difficult to use the land for other purposes in the future. This is true because glass remains whole, even if it is buried for several years.

Mishan said that the recycling project is intended to be taken up as a co-operative venture between Kuwait Municipality and

the Environmental Protection Council. Discarded glass is estimated to be in the vicinity of 33,000 tonnes a year and the cost of treating the remains of glass is estimated at about three Kuwaiti dinars per tonne, the official said.

Project

The council has selected a national company that manufactures glass to execute the project, because it is the only local company that re-manufactures waste glass. The company had made several attempts to collect discarded glass, but their efforts proved unsuccessful. He hoped that the local soft drinks bottling companies will contribute to the success of the project.

The project will be carried out on an experimental basis for three months based on two different methods. The first will involve placing containers at Abdullah Al Salem suburb's Co-operative and Jahra Co-operative Society. People will be asked to place the throw away glass bottles in these containers

and obtain vouchers from the society against which purchases could be effected. The value of the vouchers will depend on the number of bottles placed in these containers, the official said.

The second plan envisages placing sacks specialised for storing glass bottles at certain housing areas to be collected by cleaning companies.

Kuwait utilises only one per cent of all glass discarded which are those that are damaged during the bottling process. More than 20,000 tonnes of glass in Kuwait represent the throw-away bottles and the project is expected to solve 60 to 70 per cent of the problem of glass remains in the country, the official said.

If this project is successful, it will be followed by similar projects for paper, tyres, motor oil and iron. However, the main difficulty in making these projects feasible, is to overcome the obstacle of collection and transporting these items to the factory, Mishan said.

Salem in Sharjah to unveil monument

SHARJAH, Feb 25, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah arrived here today to take part in unveiling the Kuwaiti monument, built recently at Kuwait Square in Sharjah.

Sheikh Salem was greeted at the airport by members of Supreme Council of Rulers and ruler of Sharjah Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasbi, a number of ministers, Kuwait's Ambassador to the UAE Mohammed Al Lmai and the Kuwaiti consul Mohammed Al Mohaiet.

In his meeting with Sheikh Salem, Sheikh Sultan highlighted Kuwait's assistance to the UAE, particularly in the educational field, such as constructing schools and sending teachers to UAE schools.

He added that Kuwait also provided the UAE with a number of health services, including the building of clinics and hospitals. Sharjah's ruler said that the new generation may not sense these services, "but I lived through all these periods and felt what Kuwaitis gave us in this field."

For his part, Sheikh Salem expressed satisfaction that Kuwaiti assistance for the emirate and people of Sharjah has paid off. Kuwait and UAE flags had been hoisted in all streets and squares of Sharjah, in celebration of this occasion, which corresponds with Kuwait's National Day.

Official sources told Kuna that during the celebrations, Al Sabah Square near Kuwait Square will be inaugurated, while the cornerstone of late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah at Al Fahs area will be laid down. The curtain will also be unveiled from a school building named after late Amir Sheikh Abdulla Al Salem Al Sabah.

The Kuwait Square, was established in commemoration of Kuwaiti contribution to the educational and health prosperity of Sharjah in the year from 1953 to 1973.

The square, one of the busiest in downtown Sharjah, has an area of 15,000 square kilometres and represents Kuwaiti past and present with relief paintings made of reinforced concrete and brass.

The painting representing Kuwait's present displays Kuwait Towers, modern buildings and the petrochemical industry.

A six-metre high model of a Kuwaiti diving boat named "Boum" with sails eight metre in length stands between the two paintings. The monument also includes models of Al Seif Palace and the satellites station.

Dental Week, March 10-12

KUWAIT Dentist's Society will organise the Eleventh Dental Health Week which is scheduled to be held from March 10-12, 1990.

The organisers of the week, Dr Fatima Al Zaabi said that the week aims at displaying dental health via posters, publications and the exhibition will include a special section on Kuwait's dental services, developments and

methods applied in the treatment and prevention of dental diseases.

The exhibition will also include a special awareness programme for schools. Kuwait television and radio will be introducing special programmes on the occasion and the Ministry of Education will also actively participate in the activities of the week by presenting special models, the official said.

To Industrial Construction Trading Company W.L.L.

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, entitled 1989-S-No. 3704 Herbert Smith (a firm) — Industrial Construction Trading Company W.L.L. by Herbert Smith of Watling House, 35 Cannon Street, London EC4, in which the Plaintiff's claim is for the sum of £4,458.85 being the balance of monies due and owing by the Defendant to the Plaintiff pursuant to a contract for professional services rendered and disbursements incurred at the request of the Defendant together with interest amounting to £1,450.62 pursuant to the Solicitors Remuneration Order 1972 and interest from the 8th June 1989, being the date of issue of the Writ.

AND THAT IT HAS BEEN ORDERED THAT service of the Writ in the said action on you be effected by this advertisement.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 22 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by completing a prescribed form of Acknowledgment of Service which may be obtained on request from the Plaintiffs whose name and address appear below, otherwise Judgment may be entered against you.

Herbert Smith
Watling House
35 Cannon Street
London EC4

Ref: 37/L/13

Law Office

Computerisation in co-ops soon: Souraj

ALL co-operative societies will be computerised within the coming three years, according to Chairman of Co-operative Societies Union, Saad Al Souraj.

The introduction of computer facilities are intended to streamline functions of inventory, accounting, ordering of goods, administration and to assist customers.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that priority is accorded to national products and emphasis is placed on marketing and advertising. These steps are intended to improve consumer confidence in national products and enlighten them on the quality of these products.

He commented on the need to redesign some of the regulations of committees attached to the union which have now become outdated. He stressed that it is vital that these committees adhere to the rapid developments taking place in the co-operative movement in the country.

He said that the renewal of ration cards which was organised last year is still valid and co-operation between the union and Kuwait Municipality is carried out comprehensively. He praised efforts at establishing temporary slaughtering houses during the Eid Al Adha holidays indicating their importance in preventing exploitation of prices and protection of consumers.

Souraj called upon the Audit Bureau to be responsible for the accountability of co-operative societies to prevent the occurrence of any cheating or fraud as occurred in the past.

He stated that the Co-operative Societies Union has unified prices of more than 70,000 commodities adding that it is far more pragmatic to permit the society's management to manage its own branches independently.

The official said that during the coming years the union will place more emphasis on the Co-operative Magazine to give consumers a clearer picture on the undertaking of the union and societies activities and services. The union will be distributing about 50,000 to 60,000 copies of the magazine in the near future, he added.

Meanwhile, the officials added that the union will prepare the establishment of a co-operative library which will include a large variety of books which reflect the activities of the co-operative movement, its accomplishment and objectives. The library will also gather all information on marketing, products qualities and a number of references and publications. The union is also looking in the feasibility of changing the current union's building premises to accommodate the 200,000 shareholders.

Cyanide came from Qatar ship

BRIGHTON, England, Feb 25, (AP): Authorities closed beaches along the Sussex coast in southern England yesterday, less than 24 hours after they were reopened, when two containers of potentially lethal potassium cyanide washed ashore.

The public was barred from the beaches earlier in the week after six containers of potassium cyanide were found on Sussex beaches.

The Department of Transportation said the containers were part of a chemical shipment being transported by the Qatar-registered freighter Fathulkhair from Sheerness, on England's East Coast.

It was too early to say whether there would be any prosecution over the incident, an unidentified spokesman said yesterday.

"We have to determine whether the packages were washed overboard in heavy seas," he added. "The legal position also depends on how they were packed."

Brighton Council warned the public to stay away from a 10-mile (16-kilometre) stretch of beach around Brighton after one container was washed up at nearby Hove and another was seen floating off Saldern.

Al Wataniya Building Basement Floor, Opposite Zahra Complex, Salmiya, 5730041

No Gulf peace yet: Bishara

GCC gearing to keep guns silent

LONDON, Feb. 25. (Kuna): GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara has said the worst part of the Gulf war is over and pointed out that the Gulf Co-operation Council's strategy is geared now to keep guns silent in the region and keep guns silent.

The GCC chief executive, in an interview published here today in the Arabic-language Al Sharq Al Awsat (Middle East) newspaper, said the Gulf countries were experiencing an economic recovery since Iran and Iraq agreed to a ceasefire in the summer of 1988.

But he conceded that an official agreement on peace between the two Gulf belligerents was not in the offing and said the six-member GCC is doing all it can to not let the region slip into a political vacuum, with the Iranian-Iraqi peace talks dragging on at a snail's pace.

The GCC is in constant contact with the United Nations and the big powers to ensure that the UN-sponsored mediation in the Gulf would not falter.

"We have passed through the bad chapter in the Gulf region

and are heading, God willing, for the last comfortable chapter of stability and peace, and this will take time," he said.

Bishara underlined GCC efforts to mend fences with Iran and pointed out that encouraging signals have been coming from Tehran.

"There is no reason that we should take a negative attitude," he added, referring to historic and religious ties between Iran and its Arab Gulf neighbours.

On the GCC position on changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Bishara said the Gulf countries were closely watching those developments with an eye on prospects for future economic ties between the two sides.

He indicated that the GCC is keen to know where East European countries will shop for energy and whether they would pay in hard currency or resort to barter.

Another question in mind would be "What is our share in the East European market," said the chief executive of the Gulf Co-operation Council which

groups the six oil rich states of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

But Bishara said that it was now premature to establish economic contacts with Eastern Europe which he said was "in a period of transition."

Asked to comment on Iraq's recent demand that the US naval units leave Gulf waters, he reiterated the GCC conviction that the Gulf should be "a lake of peace, stability and security."

He noted that the "confusion" that prevailed in the region during the Gulf war was behind the intervention of foreign fleets in the Gulf.

Without blaming any specific party, he particularly cited interception of international sea routes.

"When the fleet owners come to believe that intervention in international routes was over, their position might change," he said.

On last week's meeting in Granada, Spain, between GCC and European Economic Commu-

munity industrialists, he deplored trade links between the two sides by saying they were still without clear shape.

He added in four years of contacts with the EEC, it has been found that the European industrialists are resting heavily on political decisions and have argued against a free trade formula with the GCC.

He said the Granada meeting, which brought together the largest number of delegates from the two sides since such contacts began, produced no joint ventures or other agreements.

Bishara said the Gulf countries were seeking to see their political ties with the EEC parallel economic links.

He said the GCC can offer Europe a large market and capital for joint ventures in addition to oil.

In return it looks to the continent for markets, technology and infrastructure.

The two sides have not embarked on official negotiations which would hinge on an EEC-GCC ministerial meeting in Oman next month, he said.

Legal Clinic

SHOULD you have a legal, labour-related or similar problem, kindly send your questions to: Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer, Khaled Taber, replies to readers' queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I HAVE been working in an establishment, which I'll refer to as a sub-company, for more than eight years. But my length of service was interrupted twice—first in May 1985 and then in May 1989 due to management transfer formalities.

I would like to know if the process of transfer from one sub-company to another constitutes justification of the length of service being cut from time to time?

Does the management of the branch company have the legal authority to withhold payment of indemnity when in fact we are considered as new employees from June 1. I would like to point out that the management is ready to pay the indemnity but the head of our department refuses to comply.

John

IF IT is a branch or sub-company as you say, then it is like working for the same employer. I don't know what the legal situation of the sub-company is. I prefer to see the documents, if any, to give appropriate advice.

Mostly, in such cases, the sub-company is considered as a branch of the parent company; employees in this situation are considered to have continuous contracts and the benefits will be based on the terms of the continuous contract.

If you feel that you have any problems with this employer, you can file a case against both companies—the parent firm and the sub-company. The court will determine whether they are right or not in withholding indemnity payment. All aspects of the case will be taken into consideration while issuing a judgement.

Did you get a new contract? If yes, this seems like a complicated question. I must read the first and the second contract to get an idea of the exact situation you are in. If the company has given the benefits, then you have the right to get the indemnity at the end of the service period. But I cannot give any firm advice until I have seen all the documents.

Article 59 of the labour law, which covers such situations, stipulates: "The

labour contract shall be terminated in the case of the firm's dissolution, liquidation, lockout, bankruptcy, merger with other firms, transfer by inheritance, legacy, donation, sale or any other legal act, and the labourer's indemnity shall become a debt which the successor is liable to settle. The labourers may continue to serve the successor with reservation of their right of indemnity for the previous years of service."

WE CAME to Kuwait on Dec. 1, 1989 but our company provided work only after Dec 25. The company also kept one month salary as a deposit. This means that we will get our first salary after three months time. We feel that the company should pay us from the date of entering Kuwait.

Sri Lankan workers

IF YOU came to Kuwait on Dec 1 on the request of the company, you have the right to get the salary from that date, because you came here to work. If the employer did not provide you work, it is not your fault.

The employer can't withhold a month's salary as deposit. You can file a case to get the salary, and if you want to leave the job you can ask for your benefits.

I AM a non-Arab expatriate working here for the past 30 years. I am in the process of obtaining citizenship of another country. After receiving my new papers, I have to renounce my previous nationality. If I intend to continue working here, can I transfer the work visa from my old passport (of previous nationality) to the new passport (new nationality)? Do I have to leave Kuwait and return with a new visa since my nationality has now changed?

I draw a salary of KD700. Can I sponsor my minor child born abroad, keeping in mind that both our nationalities differ? Will there be any problems in bringing him here? I've tried to get answers but I have not received any satisfactory answer. I will be grateful if you could guide me in this matter.

F.M.

IF YOU get the new passport here in Kuwait, you can use the previous passport as evidence that you are the same person and get the visa transferred. Only the immigration department can tell you whether this can be accepted or not, but this is one way of handling the matter.

To bring your newborn child, you can include the minor's name in your passport and then you can sponsor him to bring him here. As he will enter on a passport held by you, he will be considered as holding the same nationality.

It is advisable to approach the top management at the immigration department, like a manager or director, who will be able to guide you on the matter as they have an idea of the rules and will be able to give you appropriate advice.

I REPRESENT an exporter in India. We exported some goods from Bombay to a W.L.L. company in Kuwait on D/A basis. The importer has refused to pay the outstanding bills, claiming that the company has gone bankrupt. We also received bankruptcy documents issued by the relevant authorities.

What steps can be taken to settle our debts. Does this mean that our importers are not liable to pay? Should we refer the case to the court receiver?

Please advise.

Abdul Hasan Kazi

IF IT is a W.L.L. company, limited-sharingholding concern, each partner is responsible for his capital share, and there is a limited liability on each partner. So, the only thing to do is to file a case against the company and get a judgement to get any amount fixed by the court, along with the other creditors. The amount of money you can recover depends on the total available capital, a percentage of which would be awarded to you. For example, if the claim is KD1,000, and the company has only 100, then a percentage of KD100 would be divided among the total number of claims made against the bankrupt company.



Young people spray each other with foam as they jubilantly celebrate the occasion.



A little child rides a pony at the Shaab gardens.

Kuwait celebrates National Day

(Continued from Page 1)

One lady told a local daily that her brand new car was beaten out of shape by 30 young men, who apparently jumped on her car during a traffic jam.

Another lady said her car was sprayed with paint while she was driving home from work.

Motorists, especially living in and around the Gulf Street and in Salmiya and Safa, found themselves snaking through traffic jams. The traffic police had withdrawn 5,000 driving licences from youths who broke traffic rules, including a ban on car processions, which was considered to be the cause of most traffic jams.

The Interior Ministry has deployed extra mobile patrols, which could be spotted in nearly all suburbs yesterday. An official source said patrols were beefed up to ensure "safety and security" during the National Day celebrations.

Today, a fireworks display will take place at the Jabra Stadium at 4 pm. This will be followed by the opening of a handicrafts exhibition in a popular cafe in Salmiya. Folklore troupes will perform in popular cafes in Salmiya and Abu Halifa and in some parks in the same areas. A musical will be performed at the Shamaya Theatre at 7.30 pm.

Official celebrations end on Feb. 28 by unfurling the Kuwaiti flag, hoisted in the Green Island, at the start of the festivities.

At Yum Al Bahar arena, which is built in a way that portrays old Kuwait, people gathered around popular groups singing and dancing traditional folk songs on this occasion as children enjoyed riding wooden seesaws and merry-go-rounds.

Others, in their cars, moving bumper to bumper carried the Arabian Gulf Street blowing horns and singing patriotic songs as they were raising the national flag over their automobiles.

while citizens' houses as well as governmental buildings were lit in colours from top to bottom.

In the meantime, Governor of Al Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem attended a celebration at Al Khairan Sea-front Recreation Centre, where popular groups also danced on traditional songs.

Board Chairman and Director-General of the Touristic Enterprises Company Mohammed Al Sanousi along with Sheikh Ali celebrated the launching of a traditional wooden boat that carried the name of Al Khashma 2.

Meanwhile, Qatari magazine "Qatar Construction" hailed Kuwaiti leadership and people's march of achievements during "a period of time full of sacrifice and giving."

The magazine, specialised with engineering and construction issues, said in a report on the Kuwaiti 29th National Day that Kuwait was capable of gaining world appreciation and respect through its well organized strategy.

Kuwaiti Ambassador to Tunisia Abdelmohsen Al Jejan, hailed, in a radio and television broadcast in Tunisia last night, the Tunisian government and people for their participation in the Kuwaiti national occasion.

Meanwhile, the embassy of Kuwait in Abu Dhabi celebrated the 29th National Day of Kuwait with a crowd of attendants topped by the head of the Presidency Diwan Sheikh Srouf Bin Mohammed.

Held at the Intercontinental Hotel, the ceremony was also attended by State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sa'ed Al Gaihi, Minister of Economy and Trade Saif Al Jarwan, Minister of Agriculture and Fish Resources Sa'ed Al Ragbani in addition to heads of diplomatic missions in the UAE.

Films portraying achievements of Kuwait throughout history were shown to the guests while booklets on Kuwait were distributed.

Kuwaiti envoy to the UAE Mohammed Al Lame' hailed the wise policy of Kuwait at all levels that lifted the country to higher levels.

The diplomat said the government has built an economic base through comprehensive and well studied principles.

He noted that the support by Kuwaiti Fund confirms Kuwait's intention to host co-operation among Arab and Muslim states.

In Rome, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Italy Ahmad Al Ghaith hosted a reception commemorating the 29th National Day.

Ghaith and the embassy's staff received congratulations from ranking Italian officials as well as members of the foreign and Arab diplomatic corps in Rome.

Meanwhile, Tunisian Al Sherouq newspaper, shed light on Kuwaiti's foreign and economic policies as well as the country's flourishing development at all levels during the past 30 years.

Jordanian dailies devoted big spaces to highlight Kuwaiti celebrations on its 29th National Day.

Daily "Al Dustour" assigned a full page, in which it commented on the fast Kuwait accomplished in the past and present and the prosperity in all fields.

It said that Kuwait's independence "is the fruit of persistent and continuous work," pointing out to the role Kuwait plays in backing Arab causes, spearheaded by the Palestinian dilemma.

The association of Kuwaiti students in France, based in Besancon, organised in that eastern town of France, a two-day Kuwaiti festival, on the eve of the National Day in Kuwait.

The "Kuwait at Besancon" festival was inaugurated last Friday by the cultural adviser at the Kuwaiti embassy in Paris, Abdul Latif Al Bajjan, in the presence of a representative of the Kuwaiti Information Ministry, Ebtisaj Al Zaab, the deputy and mayor of Besancon, the dean of the university, teachers and a number of guests.

The festival, organised with the help of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information, gave students and people in that eastern French town a clearer picture of what is really Kuwait, known to them only as an oil rich Gulf country.

The local press highlighted Kuwait's accomplishments during the past years and called on the people to close ranks to protect Kuwait's achievements and national unity.

"As Kuwait celebrates its National Day," said a local Arabic daily, "This is an occasion for sacrifice to protect the country's independence, accomplishments and national unity."

The newspaper praised HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad's initiative to start a dialogue to resume parliamentary life in the country.

"We have surpassed the state of no dialogue," said another daily who stressed, "open dialogue will certainly lead to the desired goals."

Today's celebrations, has better conditions than previous celebrations on all levels, said the daily, "We are optimistic of this direction in the condition and we believe that our future celebrations will be better than today's."

The daily Al Seyassah said, the people should co-operate with the leadership noting, "We believe that this leadership is one of us, and that the leadership is fighting our problems with us."

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Behaviour tests for drivers a must: study

It is recommended that each person applying for a driving licence be psychologically tested before the actual practical test, according to a study published recently in the Kuwait Medical Society's journal.

The study included a survey of 200 Kuwaiti youths applying for driving licences during the period from 1984 to 1987 whose average age was 18. Only 115 passed the test and were authorised to drive.

Analysts who followed up the traffic conduct of these drivers to find out what violations they frequently committed, over a three-year period, said traffic violations committed by psychologically normal drivers were far less than those committed by drivers who exhibited abnormal psychological behaviour, or signs of character instability.

The study was the subject of a discussion at a symposium on "What's new in Psychiatry" held recently in co-operation with the Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations.

Accidents

The study revealed that 50 per cent of youth died in traffic accidents, whose ages were below 35, and that one third of their accidents was the result of driving under the influence of drugs.

According to statistics recorded in 1984, there were 21,957 traffic accidents in Kuwait in one year, which resulted in 413 deaths, 916 serious injuries and 1,581 slight injuries, and that the majority of the dead were youths.

The study pointed out that the figure was very high considering the population of Kuwait, adding that similar numbers of road accidents and deaths were recorded in Saudi Arabia as the 1986 statistics recorded 11,019 accidents in only six months, which involved 1,325 deaths.

The proposed psychological test for driving applicants should examine records of the applicant's family history, his education level, current health condition and others, the results of which would be entered into a computer for detailed analysis.

Disorders

Results revealed that 95 per cent driving applicants who exhibited signs of psychological disorders were authorised to drive compared to 45 per cent of psychologically balanced individuals.

Results of comparative analysis showed that traffic accidents made by the psychologically-disturbed formed 23 per cent of the total accidents recorded which was little below the figure recorded of the psychologically-fit drivers, pointing out that the majority of accidents were committed by drivers suffering from character disorders.

Taxi companies to unify prices: Haji

OWNERS of taxi companies have been granted an extension of three months to comply with the unified price quotation, according to Brigadier Abdul Hameed Al Haji, Director-General of the General Traffic Department.

The official said that violators of the ministerial decision in this respect will have their vehicle operating licences and taxi licences withdrawn.

Haji said that the General Traffic Department is currently conducting a study on installation of meters on private taxis to ensure consumer interests and prevent consumer exploitation.

Faisal Behbehani, a taxi company owner said that he welcomes the ministerial decision calling for the installation of meter devices on all private taxi vehicles on the condition that a serious study be conducted to ensure the interests of consumers and taxi owners.

He added that he complies with the price quotations stipulated by the General Traffic Department during the 1970's and commented that the GTD

should reconsider these tariffs taking into consideration the increase of overheads by taxi owners in relation to fuel, rents, spare parts, increase in drivers salaries and the significant increase in spare parts of cars.

Violations

Abu Mohammed, another taxi owner said that a special meeting was held between company owners and the general-director of the GTD which was aimed at avoiding violations such as appointing drivers without obtaining licences, installing wireless devices in each vehicle without permission and not adhering to the price system.

He said that when customers believe they are being charged extra, they should call the company. He said that he is in favour of the decision to install taxi meters on all private taxis.

However, some other owners said that installing meters on private taxis is not a practical step as the prices fixed by the authorities have proven to be practical, both to customers and taxi owners alike.

Thais doubt Iraqi link in murders

MANILA, Feb 25. (Reuters): A Thai embassy official today expressed doubts that an Iraqi arrested in the Philippines was linked to the killing of three Saudi Arabians in Bangkok.

"We doubt the Iraqi is involved in the killing. We don't think he has anything to do with it," said a Thai diplomat who asked not to be named.

"If he really supported the killers, there would be more people involved," he added.

Immigration agents arrested Mustafa Mohammad Thursday at a restaurant he owns in Manila's Ermita tourist district.

Philippine officials suspect Mohammad is a member of a fake passport syndicate which might have provided travel documents to the gunmen who killed three Saudi diplomats in Thailand on February 1.

Irish minister

BAHRAIN, Feb 25. (Reuters): Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins arrived in Bahrain today for talks on co-operation between the European Economic Community and the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC).

The Gulf News Agency said Collins, whose country is current chairman of the EEC, would hold talks with Bahrain's Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

It gave no further details but Collins' talks are expected to focus on a proposed meeting between foreign ministers of the two groups to increase co-operation.

Traffic week begins March 3

By Lima Al Khalafawi Arab Times staff

THE Gulf Traffic Week celebrations will begin on March 3, according to the Director of Public Relations and Traffic Operations at the Traffic Department, Lt. Colonel Moustafa Jum'a.

Jum'a told newsmen that "The Traffic Safety for Children" is the theme for the week. Awareness campaigns are planned for the public on the dangers of neglecting children in traffic.

The official added that the high percentage of deaths among children on the road occur while they are seated in the front seat

and knocked down due to the driver's distraction.

He said that activities of the week include exchange of traffic delegations between Kuwait and other GCC countries, honour traffic police officers and ideal drivers from Kuwait Public Transportation Company, and pay visits to injured people at Al Razi Hospital. The official added that a special course on traffic and planning will take place at faculty of engineering, Kuwait University. The three day course will present lectures on technical test-vehicles, control of traffic movements, and management of public transportation networks.

مدرسة الكويت الانجليزية KUWAIT ENGLISH SCHOOL

Teaching opportunities — September 1990

Applications are now being received for September appointments as currently advertised in the UK Educational press. The anticipated vacancies include General Class Teaching posts in Infant and Junior Departments and a number of Senior School Appointments (GCSE and "A" level syllabus): Geography, Economics, Physics, Maths, English/Drama, French, Computer Studies, Music, Chemistry, Economics. Also Head of English, Head of Music and Head of Careers.

Also Head of Primary Music.

Application forms are available at the school in Safwa (Saturday — Wednesday 7.30 am — 2.30 pm and 5 pm — 7 pm, Thursdays 8 am — 12.00 noon) or telephone: 5655216/5655218/5625640. Fax 5629356.

Write to P.O. Box 8640, Salmiya 22057.

Light flautist fantasy at International

By Jadranka Porter Arab Times staff

IN A concert Saturday night four young Austrian flute players, known as Quatre F. Flutes, demonstrated with ease the versatility of the instrument in a programme that spanned four centuries.

The numbers, chosen more for their popular appeal than musical superiority, could impress even those in the audience who may not consider themselves flute music fans.

The concert began with a light-hearted 16th century piece by Maudit Sout that evoked images of pastoral scenes and could form the background for informal occasions at royal palaces during the Renaissance.

The next piece by the players' famous countryman Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart took us to elegant salons where opulence and dignity prevailed.

And baroque music was represented by Bach's Fugue.

An interesting piece of music was First Quartet for Four Flutes by Anton Bernhard Furstenau which ends with a solemn movement that once used to be the national anthem of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

As a concession to the audience the Quatre F. Flutes departed from their classical tunes to play Scott Joplin's Maple Leaf Rag, a piece of music with instant appeal.

The flute is an instrument exceptionally effective in drawing a musical picture of an impressive landscape. Nowhere was that more evident than in a composition *Jour d'Ete a la Montagne* (A Summer Day in the Mountains) by contemporary composer Eugene Bozza. His music is crisp, cheerful or subdued as he describes meadows, forests and mountain brooks. It culminates in an exciting movement entitled *Aux Bords du Torrent* (On the Banks of the Mountain Stream) when the flutes, each following a droplet of water, join to form a swift violent rushing stream. The music with its frenzied pace and sudden rise and drop of pitch is reminiscent of the Flight of the Bumble Bee by Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov. This is a rewarding and challenging composition for performers and a delight for the audience.

The Quatre F. Flutes' debut at the Kuwait International Hotel was somewhat marred by the cacophony rising from the adjacent Arabian Gulf Street where people celebrating Kuwait's National Day repeatedly sounded their horns in what appeared to be an endless river of traffic.

But the young players took it in the right spirit and were rewarded with a generous applause and requests for an encore.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

AN INVASION of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come — Victor Hugo, French author.

Bus attack backlash
PLO-Egypt
relations sour

CAIRO, (UPI): Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials have long joked that dealing with their Israeli foe should be more straightforward than coping with an assortment of Arab friends.

The bitter irony of the joke resurfaced recently when PLO smiles to welcome an improvement in ties with bitter foe Syria turned into frowns over a growing war of words with staunch supporter Egypt.

Mayo, the press organ of Egypt's ruling National Democratic Party, launched the anti-PLO campaign after the Feb 4 attack in Egypt on a bus carrying Israeli tourists. Mayo called on Saeed Kamal, the PLO envoy in Cairo, to pack his bags and leave.

The semi-official Cairo daily Al-Ahram then called on the second in command of the PLO's El Fatah commando group, Salah Khalaf, to mind his own business. Khalaf had suggested Egypt revise its peace treaty with Israel in the wake of Soviet Jewish migration to Israel.

The PLO subsequently tried to downplay the quarrel with Egypt. "There is no rift in Egyptian ties," said Gamal El Sourani, a Cairo-based member of the PLO's executive committee.

Egypt remains crucial to the PLO because it is representing the organisation in slow-moving Mideast peace talks with the United States and Israel. It is hoped the discussions will bring about a US plan for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Syrian backing for the PLO would strengthen its hand in any peace negotiations. The improvement in the PLO's relationship with Syria comes almost five years after Damascus broke off ties with the organisation.

Complicating

Though the PLO's see-sawing fortunes in the Arab world are nothing new, they are seen as complicating the peace process by making it easier for anti-Arafat radicals opposed to contacts with the Jewish state to accuse the PLO of betraying the Palestinian cause.

"The Arab intrigues behind (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat's back have always been there, but it doesn't mean they don't hurt," commented one diplomat.

The PLO's better relationship with Syria should ease any negative effects of the anti-Arafat radicals in the run-up to the Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Arab analysts believe Cairo will not hinder the talks, and tend to dismiss the PLO's problems with Egypt as a lover's quarrel. But they say this underlines Arafat's continuing basic weakness: his reliance on others to promote a Palestinian cause that means different things to different people.

"Arafat knows he cannot act alone to achieve a Palestinian state," said columnist Mahmood Al Wani. "Alone he's lost."

Some suspect Arafat's problems with Egypt could be just another twist in Cairo's Mideast diplomacy.

Displeasure

"It could well be a sign of displeasure because Arafat refuses to allow Egypt to announce a list of Palestinian delegates to attend any peace talks with Israel," one Cairo-based envoy said.

The PLO's rift with Syria appears to be healing, however. Damascus broke off relations with the PLO in 1985, after accusing Arafat of instigating disturbances against Syrian leader Hafez Assad.

Assad took action against PLO after failing to bring its core under his control, and Palestinians say some 4,000 Arafat loyalists are still locked up in Syrian jails. Syria has also refused to recognise the Palestinian state declared by the Palestine National Congress two years ago.

But a meeting this month between Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and Arafat indicated that the war between the two sides was drawing to a close.

Syria has also asked Palestinian radicals to mend fences with PLO, prompting some Damascus-based dissident groups to announce they would attend the Palestine National Council, if it is convened. The council is the parliament-in-exile of Palestinian groups.

Prominent among opponents of the PLO in Syria is Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. The group has long attacked Arafat's peace moves, including his denunciation of terrorism and recognition of the Jewish state in Geneva in Nov 1988, one month before the PLO began an unprecedented dialogue with the United States in the Tunisian capital of Tunis.

Change

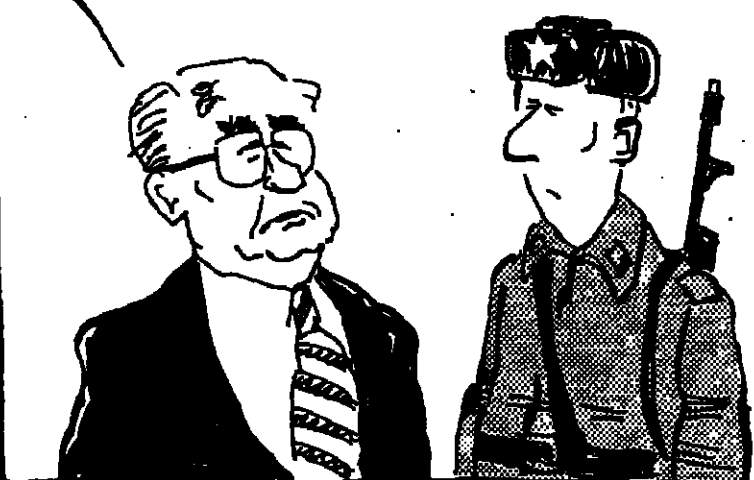
Several factors appear to have prompted Assad's change of mood. Egypt's improved ties with Syria's ideological foe Iraq, and its return to the Arab fold after years of isolation following its 1979 peace treaty with Israel, helped lead Syria to restore ties with Egypt last December. Arab observers believe that dwindling economic and military aid from the Soviet Union has also played a role. The Soviets have indicated they can no longer finance Syria's avowed goal of strategic parity with Israel. In addition, moderate Arab nations such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt have agreed to support Syria's expensive troop deployment in Lebanon, provided Assad improves ties with the PLO.

But Palestinians suffer no illusions about the future. "Fighting among Arab brothers has shed as much Palestinian blood as fighting the Zionist enemy," admitted one PLO aide. "We have no illusions and so we cannot be disappointed. The road to statehood is covered in blood, but we will go on."

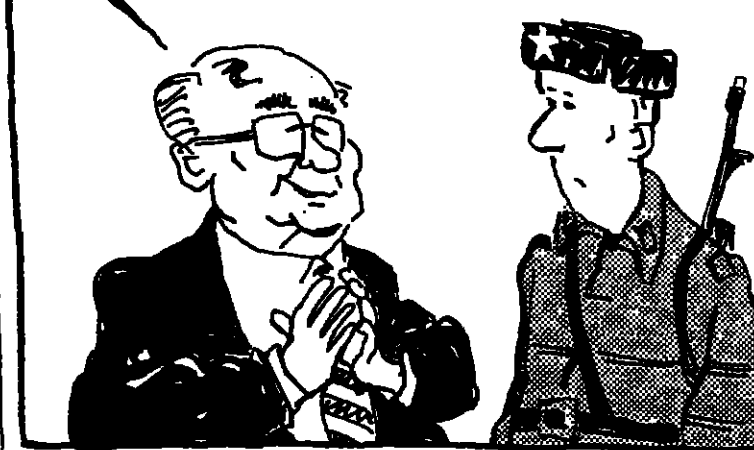
TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1531 — Earthquake in Portugal kills tens of thousands of people and flattens much of Lisbon and other cities.
- 1623 — Dutch massacre English colonists at Amboyna, Indonesia.
- 1815 — Napoleon Bonaparte escapes from island of Elba.
- 1832 — Polish constitution is abolished by Russia's Tsar Nicholas I.
- 1871 — Preliminary peace of Versailles is signed between France and Germany.
- 1909 — Turkey recognises Austria's annexation of Bosnia.
- 1918 — German planes bomb Venice, Italy, during World War I.
- 1936 — Military coup in Japan replaces Koki Hirota as premier.
- 1952 — Winston Churchill announces that Britain has produced its own atomic bomb.
- 1962 — Saigon Palace of south Vietnam's president Ngo Dinh Diem is bombed by two fighter-bombers flown by two dissident pilots of South Vietnam's Air Force.
- 1968 — Israel's foreign minister Abba Eban announces that Israel has agreed to what he calls "a form of negotiation" with Arabs.
- 1974 — Ethiopian army units seize Asmara, second largest city in Ethiopia, and demand better pay and living conditions.
- 1977 — Uganda's president Idi Amin says his country is ready to meet any threat from US naval task force standing off East African coast.
- 1986 — New Philippines President Corason Aquino asks supporters of deposed leader Ferdinand E Marcos for their cooperation in task of rebuilding country.
- 1987 — Afghan aircraft bomb two Pakistani border villages, killing at least 35 people and injuring more than 200 others.
- 1988 — Soviet leader Mikhail S Gorbachev makes unprecedented appeal for calm in protest-plagued Soviet republic of Armenia.
- 1989 — Ayatollah Khomeini meets with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze for talks centring on Islam.

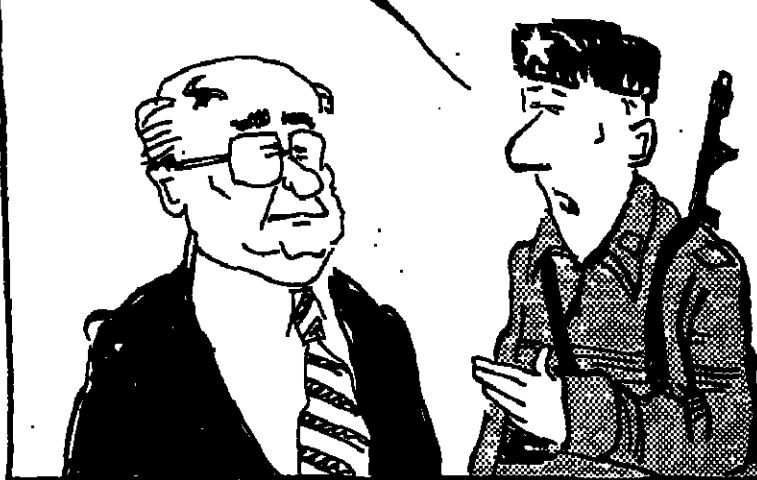
HOW ARE THINGS IN AZERBAIJAN?



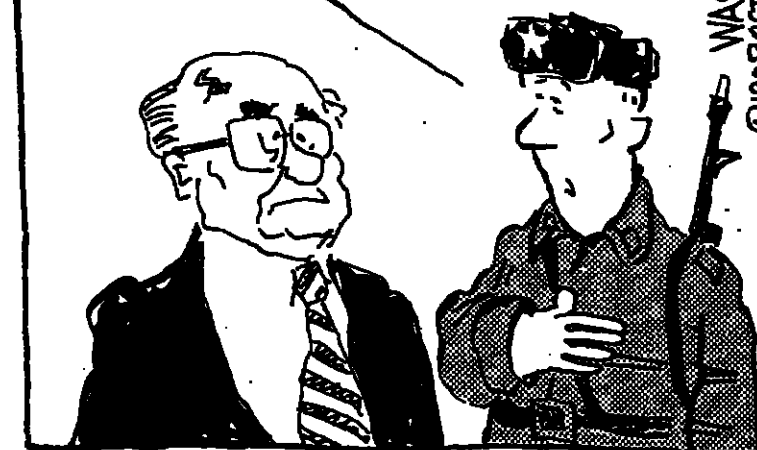
THIS IS GREAT NEWS!



WE'VE FOUND COMMON GROUND BETWEEN THE AZERIS AND ARMENIANS



THEY'RE BOTH FIRING AT US

WASSERMAN
© 1990 BY L.A. TIMES SYND.

Racial segregation days numbered

Last vestiges to be uprooted

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (AP): "Miracles are happening," said Olga Lutu, who runs a school in a black shantytown. "Freedom is a real possibility."

She was looking into the future. So, in his way, was T. J. Ferreira, a 39-year-old white service station owner.

"I played sports with blacks and that didn't bother me," he said. "I didn't mind lunching with blacks. We just don't want to be governed by them."

Apartheid, while not dead, is showing symptoms of terminal illness. The question before South Africa now seems to be whether it will die a peaceful or painful death.

Growing numbers of South Africans across the political spectrum — from black activists to right-wing whites — believe the last of the major apartheid laws imposed in 1984 may be scrapped or rendered ineffective within a year or two, possibly within months.

However sweeping the legal changes, apartheid will leave a legacy of mistrust, prejudice and economic inequality that may take decades to overcome.

But long-term worries are now coupled with a surge of optimism among blacks following President F. W. de Klerk's decision to free African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and lift a 30-year ban on the ANC.

"Everybody came out of their houses when we heard the news, and we were singing in the streets," said Mrs Lutu, a robust energetic mother of four whose school is in a shantytown called Orange Farms.

She believes statutory apartheid will be gone within a few years.

"The people are liberating themselves," she said. "Nothing ever happens if people are quiet."

Apartheid has been crumbling slowly but steadily for more than a decade. So-called "petty apartheid" — segregation of theatres, beaches and buses, among other things — has ended in most areas, and rural blacks no longer face legal barriers if they want to move to a city.

De Klerk has speeded up the pace of reform during his seven months in office, asserting that discrimination is wrong and proposing negotiations aimed at extending political rights to blacks. Black militants are pressing for abolition of the last crucial group of laws known as the "pillars of apartheid."

These include the Group Areas Act, which mandates segregation of residential areas; the Land Act, which prevents blacks from owning land in more than 80 per cent of South Africa; and the Population Registration Act, which requires all South Africans to be officially classified by race.

These laws have enabled the government to exclude blacks from national elections and persist with the last major categories of segregation — residential areas, state-run schools and public hospitals.

Art Buchwald

I am not a party member, sir

"THE Moscow Committee on UN-Soviet Affairs will come to order. I call Misha Obolensky as a witness."

"I am ready when you are, Mr. Chairman."

"Misha, are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?"

"No, I just went to a few of its dances."

"Misha Obolensky, I have in my hand the names of 50 million members of the Communist Party. Would you please tell us if you know any of them?"

"I don't recognize the names, but then again I live in the suburbs."

Marched

"A likely story, Misha. Our records show that on May 1, 1985, you marched in a May Day parade with the Lenin Daughters of the Revolution. Do you deny this?"

"It was an accident. I was looking for the GUM department store and I wound up at the head of the march. It was a terrible thing to do, but how was I supposed to know that all the people in the parade were fellow travellers?"

"You should have known. Moscow was full of Communists at that time."

"Mr. Chairman, it was my wife who made me go

Apartheid at a glance

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (AP): A look at what has changed in apartheid and what remains in force:

What's changed:

— Blacks allowed to form their own trade unions.

— Laws outlawing inter-racial marriage and sexual relations repealed.

— The Pass Laws, which required blacks in "white" areas to have a permit, repealed.

— Influx Control Laws, which restricted blacks' freedom to move into urban areas, abolished.

— Beaches, theatres, hotels, restaurants and most forms of public transport desegregated.

— Laws reserving for whites certain types of supervisory and technical jobs at mines repealed.

— Blacks given a policy-making role in individual administration.

— Central business districts in major cities and towns opened to black traders.

— Blacks, who previously could only rent, now can own homes.

What remains:

— Black majority has no vote in national affairs. Blacks vote only in

tribal homelands and local elections.

— Group Areas Act of 1950 mandates racial segregation of residential areas.

— Black Land Act of 1913 prevents blacks from owning property in the vast majority of the country.

— Population Registration Act of 1950 requires that all South Africans be registered with the government by race. Without this act, other apartheid laws would be difficult to enforce.

WINDHOEK, Namibia, (AP): If South Africans need assurances that apartheid can be dismantled peacefully and efficiently, they need only look north to Namibia.

For decades, the territory was subjected to virtually the same system of racial segregation that prevailed in South Africa, Namibia's ruler since World War I. The best equipped schools and hospitals were reserved for whites, while blacks lived in rundown, segregated townships or underdeveloped tribal reserves.

Starting in 1978, the apartheid laws began to fall. By early this year, as the territory heads toward independence on March 21, the process was complete.

All-white schools and hospitals opened their doors to blacks without incident. An assembly composed of political parties on opposite sides during a 23-year guerrilla war unanimously approved a constitution outlawing discrimination of all kinds.

At the ceremony in which the constitution was adopted, several speakers said South Africa should take inspiration from Namibia.

"We confounded the doubters," said Sam Nujoma, who led the South-West Africa People's Organisation during its long bush war and now is Namibia's president-designate.

One big difference between Namibia and South Africa is the size of white population. About 75,000 of Namibia's 1.5 million people are white, compared to five million out of 37 million in South Africa. Most South Africans — 28 million — are black, but three million people of mixed race, and 850,000 Asians also live there.

But Namibia's whites play a comparable role to those in South Africa, holding key posts in business, government, mining, healthcare and other professions. Because of Swapo's conciliatory attitude, few whites have been leaving.

"Whites would like to offer their

experiences, knowledge and abilities to the country and its people. This will, however, only take place if they are accepted as part of the country," said Jamie de Wet, a leader of the largest white political party.

Residential areas in Namibia have been opened to all races for several years, although relatively few blacks have had the desire or the money to move into well-to-do white neighborhoods.

However, many Swapo officials have settled in white areas since returning from exile last year. Nujoma is one of the few top-ranking Swapo leaders to maintain residence in Katutura, the main black area of Windhoek.

Godfrey Gooseb, named by Nujoma to be finance minister, said a conservative Afrikaaner, the main white ethnic group in South Africa, was his real estate agent during his search for a home in white areas.

"We became such good friends that we now visit each other frequently," he said.

Lesson for South Africa

Service station owner Ferreira, an Afrikaner and a member of the pro-apartheid Conservative Party, serves on the municipal council in Boksburg, an industrial city near Johannesburg. He and other conservatives took control of the council in 1988 and banned non-whites from recently integrated municipal facilities.

Ferreira, an outgoing man with a close-knit family, said white conservatives were prepared to fight — or secede into an all-white homeland — if the government surrendered power to blacks.

If blacks moved into his comfortable middle-class neighborhood, he said, "they'll want what's ours... A group might decide they like my house — they'll come in and take it."

"You made no speeches about the world order of socialism and burying the West?"

"It was just cocktail conversation. You know how Reds are when they get together and have nothing to talk about."

"Would you care to give us details of what else your cell discussed?"

"What cell? It was a club — we went to soccer games and Lenin's tomb. Believe me, Mr. Chairman, we had nothing to do with the revolution whatsoever."

"If you didn't, who did?"

"The Trotskyites. They're the ones who imposed a one-party system on the motherland. My members were for the Democratic Party. I swear it on my wife's head — would you like her address?"

"Misha, did you ever put microfilm in a pumpkin in your garden?"

"I think I may have once. They were naked photographs of Comrade Brezhnev, whom we all hated and feared. Having pictures of him doesn't make me a Communist."

"It doesn't make you a Lithuanian, either."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Letters to the editor

Jewish migration

SIR: In your Tue, Feb 13 issue, I saw an article under the headline "Soviets seek UN meeting on Jews." What wonderful news. The Soviets think people are asleep. Who do they want to fool? The news must have been published in April's first week edition so that it can be taken as an April joke.

What a pity! Arabs or Muslims have faith in the Western and Soviet mass media, and become happy for such coverage news. We (Muslims) always awake too late. We don't take the proper steps at the appropriate time and are to some extent very glib.

Now Eastern bloc Jews are emigrating in their thousands to Israel daily. We all know where they will be settled — They will be settled on Palestinian, Arab and Muslim land.

The question is — What are we doing to counter this trend? We are protesting and no one is listening because we don't present a common front.

Since 1948, Russia has been allowing Jews to emigrate to either the US or Israel. Once in the US the Jews are re-emigrated to Israel.

The conspiracy is quite obvious — the US financing and the Soviet Union supplying manpower to keep Muslims down.

President Mubarak alone can't fight for Muslims. He must be encouraged and helped.

Kuwait has always stood for Arabs and Muslim causes. It also has a good relation with the Soviet Union, and the East bloc countries. It must use its influence to stop the influx to the territories. All the Arab countries who can use their influence to stop the flow must do so.

The UN is a toy in the hands of the US and the USSR. The UN is powerless so Israel won't obey its resolutions.

There are only two ways to settle the problem. 1. All Arabs and Muslims must unite behind Hosni Mubarak. 2. Cut all business and political ties with the East bloc until they stop the Jewish emigrations.

Conferences, resolutions or agreements are not the solution. The UN or its Security Council will not and can't do anything — unity and our own efforts can make a difference.

Moscow will not limit or stop the emigration because it needs Western money and technology.

I urge all Muslims to stand with oge voice and support Mubarak. His efforts and policies are noble and he is a strong and respected leader.

Abdel Majeed Ismail
Cairo, Egypt

Toy

Human priority

SIR: Every now and then — and lately quite often — we are bombarded with reports by the media about cruelty to animals. We now hear of dogs being kept from Korean kibitzers and left to starve, of free-range chickens and of restaurants that do away with people wearing animal furs. We've even heard of animal psychiatrists — for heaven's sake!

Now I ask you: haven't we got our priorities mixed up somehow? If the issue here is humanity shouldn't human beings come up as a definite number one?

We must all agree that no normal human being can possibly consider under and intentional physical cruelty to animals, but if we are going to invest the time, energy and money to saving a life shouldn't it be a human life rather than a dog's?

I, for one, come from a background that views with horror the custom of eating dogs, but then other people from different backgrounds would be equally disgusted at the thought of eating, say, frogs, snails, pigeons, even rabbits. We are just used to the idea of

cruddy dogs as pet, but we do keep pet rabbits as well. So if the Koreans want to eat dogs and we need them, as long as they're healthy and quick and painless, as possible just like any other animal used for human consumption. And if we are able to adopt why not adopt a Korean child instead? God knows they need help more than dogs!

And the latest fashion — free range chickens! In this world of over population, unemployment and inflation, is our top priority the happiness and contentment of chickens bred for human consumption or is it sufficient healthy foods at the lowest cost possible for everyone to afford?

Then we have the powerful lobbying of animal activists to prevent the use of laboratory animals. Who would they rather have us experiment our medical procedures and chemical preparations on human volunteers or, maybe, convicted prisoners rather than guinea pigs and monkeys? Or perhaps we should do away with experimenting altogether, hit the markets with our new products and just see what happens. Don't these people realize the vital importance of lab testing? Doesn't anyone remember the Thalidomide tragedy?

Then there is the new social stigma on wearers of animal furs. Are all these people championing the cause of fur animals because they fear all, if we eat animal flesh why on earth shouldn't we wear animal fur. Granted, you will not die of cold if you don't wear animal fur but you will not die of malnutrition either if you don't eat animal flesh. So where is the difference? Who exactly decides which animals may be used by humans and which may not? Who decides how we may use them and how we may not? The key again is not to subject any animal to undue physical pain. But that is where it should end!

In this day and age of extreme plenty and extreme poverty, of diseases never before known to man and baffling to even our most advanced medical knowledge, where over-population, famine, never-ending wars and industrial catastrophes leave millions of human beings homeless, sick and hungry a helping hand is needed from anyone who can extend it. But before you shed a tear over an animal please think of a poor helpless baby whose life should mean more to the world than the life of a guinea pig.

Sharifa O Islam

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"The Central Committee calls on communists, non-party members, workers, peasants and intellectuals... to uphold the law, the principles of democracy and to reject those working for chaos and provoking conflicts, feud and enmity." — Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

"I don't think the decision will lead to further tensions because it is under international safeguards and it will be monitored." — Pakistani PM Benazir Bhutto on nuclear co-operation between France and Pakistan.

"The company is keen to preserve the lives of the sailors." Rescue operations are still under way to put out the fire and save the tanker and its load. An official on the fate of the ablazed Kuwaiti tanker.

"We are going to take legal measures and those who break the law will be severely punished because they are acting against national interests." — Romanian president on demonstrators who occupied government headquarters.

"The ANC have condemned the meeting and I support them. We should not complicate the situation (in south Africa). If anything goes wrong because they (Zaire) are showing support for De Klerk and it becomes bloody, those brothers of mine will have to share that blood." — Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia on the ANC objection to a summit between De Klerk and some African leaders.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nouri ends visit

Europe urged to drop tariffs

KUWAIT, Feb 25, (Kuna): Chairman and managing director of the Kuwait Petrochemical Industries Company Abdulbaqi Al Nouri returned home today after heading a joint meeting for European and Gulf industrialists.

The meeting, part of a conference held in Granada in the period 18-22 of the month, was designed to listen to varying viewpoints on the issue of petrochemical products exchange between the Gulf Co-operation Council and the European Economic Community.

In a speech delivered at the meeting, Al Nouri urged European governments to drop all tariffs imposed on Gulf products to create a fairer competition between GCC and EEC products.

Calling for designing a new agreement on commercial exchange, he said "the political developments in Europe and the developments aiming at the establishment of a single European market in 1992 highlight the necessity of reaching a commercial agreement between the two groups."

Headed, "such an agreement should be comprehensive" and should open the doors before Gulf petrochemical products "allowing a free access to European markets with no limitations on quantities and no imposition of any fees."

A series of meetings and conferences have been held by petrochemical producers in the GCC and the EEC after signing the economic agreement of 1988 to try to reach an acceptable formula which would realise justice in terms of the flow of materials and products in both directions.

One such basic meeting of Gulf petrochemical producers was held in summer 1989 in Bahrain, where the basis of the dialogue were defined. A committee was formed to examine various viewpoints on the exchange of petrochemical products.

Another meeting was held during the month of October last year in Brussels, where the Gulf side was represented by the ambassador at the Saudi Foreign Ministry Ma'Moun Kurdi. The meeting agreed to hold a broader meeting at the end of January this year with wider participation from both sides.

Job cuts unveiled

NEW YORK, Feb 25, (Opecna): The Chevron Corporation announced yesterday that it would trim up to 1,000 jobs this year, or 12 per cent of the payroll of its domestic exploration and production unit.

The Dallas-based company revealed that it would also sell \$700 million worth of domestic properties in the next two years. The changes would result in charges of \$25 to 30 million against first-quarter earnings.

However, the fourth largest oil company in the United States said it would still continue to expand its search for oil and natural gas deposits overseas.

Experts have criticised Chevron chairman Kenneth Derr, who replaced George Keller a year ago, for moving too slowly in trimming excess operations that were inherited from the company's acquisition of the Gulf Oil Corporation six years ago.

Following the announcement, which was made in the last hour of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, Chevron's shares climbed 62.5 cents, but that was not enough to recover earlier losses and the shares ended the day down 50 cents at \$69.37.

In December, the Pennzoil Company disclosed that it held eight per cent of Chevron's common shares. Chevron immediately took legal action, which has not been resolved, to block further purchases by Pennzoil.

Oil earnings up

MEXICO CITY, Feb 25, (AP): Mexico earned \$7.28 billion from crude oil exports in 1989, a 24.3 per cent increase from 1988, the state-owned oil monopoly Pemex said.

Exports averaged 1.28 million barrels a day in 1989, off slightly from the 1.3 million barrels a day in 1988, a communiqué from Petroleos Mexicanos, S.A. said Thursday.

The income was up from the \$5.85 billion in 1988, but still far below the \$13.3 billion in 1985, the year before the sharp fall in world oil prices.

Of the 1989 exports, 344,100 barrels a day were of the light Istmus crude, 786,100 of heavy Maya crude, and 147,500 of the extra light Olmece.

Overall level of confidence boosted

THE upturn of economic activities in the Gulf continued last year and the outlook for 1990 is more promising than any time since the beginning of the recession in 1983. Signs of renewed economic growth are now quite evident. Rising oil revenues, higher exports of petrochemicals, aluminium and other industrial products, firming up of rents and real estate prices, strong performance of the region's stock markets, resurgence in deposits and demand for commercial bank credit, a noticeable improvement in commerce and retail sales activities and greater interest on the part of private businessmen seeking

domestic investment opportunities are all indicators of favourable economic conditions prevailing in the region, according to GIB monthly report.

Henry T. Azzam, the chief economist of GIB said the overall level of confidence was further boosted by the improvement in the geo-political atmosphere regionally and world-wide. The end of the cold war between the two superpowers, developments in Eastern Europe and the build-up of the peace process in the region are bound to reflect positively, one way or another, on the Gulf countries.

The recovery of the world oil

market is expected to continue. Strong economic growth prospects in Europe and Japan will more than offset the anticipated slight slowdown of the US economy this year and help sustain the rise in world demand for oil.

The end of the cold war could mean millions of dollars of savings in defence expenditure that would be channelled towards productive investment in both the East and the West. The economic liberalisation of Eastern Europe and prospects of Western capital inflow to the region could generate an added impetus to world economic growth.

The rapid developments there

are bound to create a fundamental change in levels and styles of consumption and industrial production which will inevitably lead to higher demand for energy. This together with the decline in Soviet oil production will increase the Gulf region's share of the world oil market. Furthermore, East Europe is potentially a sizeable market for non-oil Gulf exports (aluminium, petrochemicals, light manufacturing etc.), especially because the Gulf countries can tie finance to future trade flows. Last year, the major Gulf oil producers boosted their average daily oil production to levels not seen since 1981 while oil prices

rose by more than 20 per cent.

A general adherence to production quota levels agreed upon in the last Opec meeting of November 1989 and the upward trend in the world demand for Opec oil could see additional firmness in average oil prices this year.

Adding to future growth prospects in the region are huge investments planned in the oil, petrochemicals, aluminium, natural gas and various other industrial outlets. Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait are pressing ahead with plans to raise their oil production capacity to meet a projected surge in world demand in the 1990s.

The Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (Sabic) is expected to spend around \$6 billion to expand its production plants and enhance its product range in the next few years. Kuwait is also moving ahead with plans for eight petrochemical factories in the south of the country.

In Qatar, the development of the North Field gas scheme will make further headway this year, while Bahrain is going ahead with a number of projects to expand the country's industrial infrastructure.

Four important developments will stand out this year: (a) the return of confidence to the Gulf markets will translate into

expansionary business and investment plans, relaxed consumer spending patterns, reduced need for cost cutting and an upturn in employment opportunities; (b) firmer oil revenues will make it possible for the governments to implement their targeted expansionary budgets for 1990 thus giving added boost to domestic economic growth; (c) capital market activities will pick up with stronger secondary bond markets and intensified privatisation efforts as more national and regional institutions choose to increase their capital base through share float-

(Continued on Page 14)

Gulf economic outlook 1990

GCC oil earnings set to edge up further

Higher crude prices boost Gulf economies

BAHRAIN, Feb 25, (Reuters): Higher oil prices boosted the oil revenues of six Gulf Arab states by 30 per cent to \$45.8 billion in 1989, a senior Gulf economist said in a report published today.

Gulf International Bank Economist Henry Azzam said total oil earnings for the six Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states were set to edge up a further 2.1 per cent to \$46.7 billion in 1990, providing prices remained firm.

The GCC groups Opec members Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with non-Opec Bahrain and Oman. All six are trying to reduce dependence on oil, which accounts for more than 50 per cent of their GDP.

Azzam said GCC economies would continue to benefit from higher oil prices in 1990 but would grow more slowly than in 1989, when the average price of

Opec's basket of crudes leaped to \$17.3 a barrel from \$14.28 in 1988.

Prices would remain above \$18 in 1990 as long as Opec members adhered more strictly to quotas when demand slackened in the second half of the year, he said.

A more diversified economic structure and sounder Gulf business practices would also boost GCC development.

"The Gulf countries emerged from the (1983) recession in much better shape than most analysts had thought - equally important, the region today is quite different from the one that experienced the boom years," he said.

Azzam said several economic trends would stand out in 1990.

Business investment and consumer spending would continue to increase, higher oil prices would enable governments to

implement expansionary budgets and capital market and privatisation.

He predicted Saudi Arabia's nominal GDP growth rate would slow to 2.5 per cent in 1990 from an estimated 3.5 per cent in 1989 while Kuwait's would drop to two per cent from four.

The UAE's GDP growth rate was projected to fall to four per cent from nine in 1989 while Oman's would decline to five per cent from eight, he said.

GDP growth for Bahrain and Qatar would both rise to three per cent in 1989 from 2.5 per cent in 1988 on the start-up of major industrial projects, Azzam said.

Meanwhile the Gulf International Bank (GIB), the second-biggest offshore bank in Bahrain, said on Thursday it recorded a loss of \$692.5 million in 1989 after setting aside money for shaky Third World debts. GIB general manager Ghazi

Abdul-Jawad told Reuters the bank had added \$25 million to provisions for troubled LDC (less developed country) debt in a bid to rid itself of the problem completely.

"The provisions we have taken are bold and in excess of regulatory requirements," he said.

"This is our assessment... we wanted to get this problem behind us completely so that the management and staff can concentrate their energies positively towards building the bank's income streams," he said.

Abdul-Jawad declined to give an exact figure but said the special provisions - which are in addition to GIB's normal non-disclosed provisioning policy - would boost the bank's cover to the "top tier" of international levels.

These now range between 25 and 70 per cent, he said.

Crude prices nose dive

NEW YORK, Feb 25, (UPI): US crude oil prices nosedived Friday after it became evident there was more than enough crude available in the final day of scheduling March pipeline deliveries from the US Gulf Coast cash market.

For the past several months traders have been carrying more barrels than they needed to take advantage of rising demand as the final day approaches for scheduling month-ahead deliveries to the Cushing, Oklahoma, Midwest terminal.

"This month, it didn't turn out that way. There is too much March crude on the spot market," said Michael McDermott of Paine Webber Inc. in New York, with the result of some traders "giving back" the profits they had made in previous months.

Demand this month has been slackening as refiners begin preparations for the annual March maintenance shutdowns to "turnaround" their facilities for the maximum production of gasoline over heating oil.

On the US Gulf Coast spot market, the benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude for March delivery was being bid at \$21.10 a barrel, down 15 cents on the day and \$1.30 on the week.

WTI fell 42 cents on the New York Mercantile Exchange to \$21.42 a barrel, which was 83 cents less than last Friday.

Three companies - Sun Co., Radnor, the Conoco Inc. subsidiary of Du Pont in Houston and the Marathon Oil Co. unit of USX Corp. in Findlay, Ohio - dropped by 75 cents the posted price they will pay for crude at the wellhead to \$21.50 a barrel for WTI.

Unleaded gasoline for March delivery fell 0.40 cent on the Merc to 59.85 cents a gallon, a scant 0.14 cent less than last week.

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Alleged insurance swindle

Udo Proksch handcuffed on his way to court as witness at the trial of his friend former Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz against the writer Hans Preterebner in Vienna. Proksch was arrested on Oct 20, 1989 and is on trial himself in connection with alleged Lucona insurance swindle. (Reuters wirephoto)

Brady discusses economy

ROME, Feb 25, (UPI): US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady discussed the effects of the impending monetary union of the two Germanys on the international economy yesterday with top Italian economic experts.

Brady held a two-hour "consultation," followed by a working lunch, with Italian Treasury Minister Guido Carli, 75, a former governor of the Bank of Italy.

It was the second stage of a tour of European financial capitals that started in Frankfurt, West Germany, Friday. After Rome, Brady is expected to visit Paris, London, Warsaw and Brussels.

Brady was expected to stay in Rome through Sunday and to meet Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti today.

Underlining the importance of the tour, Brady was accompanied by treasury undersecretaries David Mulford and Hollis McLaughlin, but his activities were accompanied by a minimum of publicity and in Frankfurt and Rome Brady made no comment on his talks.

Italian officials said the talks in Rome centred mainly on efforts to prevent the planned monetary union between West and East Germany causing a generalised increase in interest rates, which could fuel inflation and slow the growth of the world economy.

Pepsi consolidates

GCC operations

PEPSI-COLA International has re-structured its GCC operations by consolidating its management and marketing functions for the region in a single office.

Heading up the team is Saad Abdul Latif, recently appointed vice-president of Pepsi-Cola International for the Arabian peninsula.

Saad Abdul Latif was previously market manager for Saudi Arabia. The changes we have implemented will improve our Gulf management team by creating new specialist marketing and operations areas," said Saad Abdul Latif. "This will improve our performance in the region where we already have one of the largest soft drinks market shares in the world."

Pepsi-Cola International's regional office in Dubai provides field support to its 17 franchised bottling companies in the region, including 11 for Pepsi and six for 7UP. Six of these are in Saudi Arabia, three in UAE and two each in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Issue No. (97) for Treasury Bills
Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:

The Amount of this Issue is KD 150 million distributed over THREE

Denominations as follows:

KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

2. ISSUE DATE: Wednesday 28 / 2 / 1990

3. DUE DATE: Wednesday 30 / 5 / 1990

4. OFFERING PERIOD:

From: Monday 26 / 2 / 1990

To: Tuesday 27 / 2 / 1990

5. ALLOTMENT: Wednesday 28 / 2 / 1990

6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:

After one week following the date of submitting the application.

7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Youm) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.

Eastern strike produces no winners

MIAMI, Feb 25, (UPI): After a gruelling year of economic warfare, airline boss Frank Lorenzo and his union foes at Eastern Airlines agree on one point: the bitter, year-long Eastern strike has produced no winners.

"Nobody wins in a strike," said Frank Ord, a local machinist official in Miami. "We have had terrible casualties."

The long-running battle between Eastern management and the company's unions also has failed to produce an ending. A year after the strike began, the fate of Eastern and more than 20,000 workers remains uncertain.

"It is a battle no one has won," Lorenzo told a group of businessmen during a rare south Florida appearance in January.

The International Association of Machinists struck Eastern on March 4, 1989, after negotiations failed to break a 17-month-old contract dispute.

Pilots and flight attendants, angry over Lorenzo's hard-ball management tactics, stayed off the job in droves, in a show of solidarity that knocked the wind out of the nation's seventh-largest airline.

Thousands of passengers were stranded as Eastern tried to bully its pilots back into the cockpit. When a federal judge refused to order the pilots back to work, Eastern filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

A year later, IAM members continue to walk the picket line, although some hold little hope for Eastern's survival.

"I don't think anybody realistically thinks there is a resolution," said Fernando Sereix, 30, a former Eastern electronics technician. "They're just waiting to see it (Eastern) go down."

The unions, which called off its sympathy strike in November, continues to push for the sale of Eastern in the hopes of winning back some of the jobs lost in the strike.

"We took down the picket line, but not one of us is back yet," said E.J. Breen, a spokesman for the Eastern chapter of the Air Line Pilots Association.

Meanwhile, Eastern struggles to find the formula that will allow it to satisfy creditors and emerge from bankruptcy as a viable carrier.

Company officials insist that Eastern can make a comeback, and while they say they are not planning or proposing to merge the airline with its sister carrier, Continental, they have not ruled out that option.

But some analysts say an eventual merger of Eastern with Continental is the more likely outcome.

"Whether Eastern eventually folds its tent as an airline, or is merged into Continental, still remains to be seen," said Louis Marchese of Jannetty, Montgomery, Scott & Philadelphia.

"I think there is a better chance that it will be folded into Continental. I don't see Eastern making it alone, and Continental could use the help."

Developments in the high-stakes bankruptcy entered a new, critical stage as the one-year anniversary of the strike approached.

Eastern and its unsecured creditors reached agreement Feb 22 on a reorganization plan that includes participation by Eastern's parent company, Texas Air Corp., and Continental. Eastern said the plan could allow it to merge from bankruptcy by mid-year.

Under the agreement, the unsecured creditors, who are owed about \$980 million by Eastern, would receive \$490 million in cash and notes, or about 50 cents of the dollar. The notes would be guaranteed by Continental.

The company's unsecured creditors said the agreement would provide a "solid foundation for a successful and prompt reorganization."

Petra Bank strike ends

AMMAN, Jordan, Feb 25, (AP): A three-day strike by employees of the troubled Petra Bank ended today after a government-mediated pay settlement was announced.

As bank staff returned to work, Moussa Shakhshoor, secretary-general of the Banking and Insurance Employees' Association, said the settlement gave the workers increases ranging from 1-19 per cent.

They had sought raises of at least 20 per cent and demanded management reforms. The bank's government-appointed management had offered raises of 1-15 per cent.

Shakhshoor said management had also agreed to establish a salary scale which will be negotiated with the association.

"We're all happy with the results," he said.

Most of the bank's 600 employees struck last Wednesday, expressing unhappiness with the new management and complaining they had not received any pay raises in five years, despite soaring inflation.

The government's economic security committee took over the bank last August when liquidity problems left Petra unable to meet Central Bank reserve requirements.

Bank founder Ahmed Chalaby left the country and Finance Ministry officials have since accused him of mismanagement, questionable loan practices and currency speculation. He has denied the charges.

US is not 'out of recessionary woods'

NEW YORK, Feb 25, (UPI): Consumer prices this week recorded their biggest increase in nearly eight years but there was no indication the government would tighten credit as the surge in food and energy prices seemed temporary.

Although Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan said indicators suggested that the US economy might have passed its weakest point, there were lingering signs of weakness shown by job reduction at major companies, including Chevron Corp and Digital Equipment Corp.

Exxon Corp., in a surprise move, also wrote off an additional \$300 million against its 1989 earnings as the giant oil company seemed close to reaching an agreement with the Justice Department to avoid criminal prosecution for damage resulting from the Alaska oil spill.

Exxon lowered its 1989 earnings from the previously reported \$3.8 billion to \$3.5 billion. The added charge brought the company's total 1989 spill writedown to \$1.68 billion, which when added to the amount claimed as a tax deduction brought the projected amount to be spent by the company to \$2.5 billion.

Adding at least another \$400 million covered by insurance, the cleanup cost currently totals an estimated \$3 billion.

The Labour Department reported Wednesday that food and energy costs pushed consumer prices up a staggering 1.1 per cent in January, the biggest increase in nearly eight years.

Analysts had expected the hike in food and energy prices because of the cold wave that gripped most of the nation in late December.

"Increases in food and energy prices accounted for over 60 per cent of the January advance," the department's Bureau of Labour Statistics said.

"In particular, record monthly increases were recorded in the indexes for fuel oil and fruits — up 26.3 per cent and 10.2 per cent, respectively — and gasoline prices rose 7.7 per cent," the bureau said.

The report was released less than 24 hours after Greenspan told Congress to look for a 1990 inflation rate as low as 4 per cent.

In his semiannual report to Congress, Greenspan warned that the nation is not "out of the recessionary woods." He also cautioned that corporate earnings were falling and expressed reservation over excess indus-

trial and household debt.

"However, available indicators of near-term economic performance suggest that the weakest point may have passed," Greenspan told a House Subcommittee on domestic monetary policy. "Such evidence warrants at least guarded optimism."

Greenspan said housing starts appear to be on the rebound, the ailing automotive industry has gotten its house in order, and industrial activity outside of motor vehicles appear to be holding up.

"From these and similar data, one can infer the beginnings of a modest firming in economic activity," he said.

But also Tuesday, Chevron announced in San Francisco that it will eliminate 800 to 1,000 jobs this year in a major restructuring of its domestic exploration and production business.

The cuts amount to between 10 per cent and 12 per cent of Chevron's total domestic oil and natural gas production and exploration workforce.

Some workers will be offered jobs in other parts of the company, but about half are expected to be laid off, a spokesman said.

A day later, the nation's No. 2 computer manufacturer, Digital Equipment, said layoffs and other staff-cutting measures were under "active" consideration and that it may report its first quarterly loss ever.

Digital blamed slowdowns in the economies of Canada, Britain and Australia along with continued poor results in the United States for the expected downturn. Digital's third quarter ends March 31.

Jay P. Stevens, a stock analyst who follows digital for Dean Witter Reynolds, shrugged off the news.

Stevens said, "Digital is the only remaining computer company that hasn't done something like that. Maybe it's inevitable that they do."

On the communications front, NBC said in New York Wednesday it was launching a \$1 billion joint venture with two other media companies and Hughes Communications Inc. That would use napkin-size dish antennas to bring direct broadcasting satellite service to US homes by 1993.

The network said it was joining with Cablevision Systems Corp., News Corp. Ltd., and Hughes Communications Inc. to launch Sky Cable, that will allow millions of Americans viewers to receive an extra 108 new chan-

nels.

In Atlanta, Georgia-Pacific Corp. said it had agreed to acquire Great Northern Nekeoosa Corp., ending a four-month battle between the two forest products giants over a \$4 billion merger.

Under the agreement, which was approved by the directors of both companies for approval by shareholders, Georgia-Pacific will increase its price from \$63 to \$65.75 a share for Great Northern's stock.

The offer was conditioned on a number of common shares being validly tendered to give Georgia-Pacific a majority of the common shares of Great Northern on the date of purchase. Georgia-Pacific now owns 349,000 shares of Great Northern stock.

The agreement ended a hostile takeover battle that began in October when Georgia-Pacific first made its \$63-a-share offer for Great Northern, which is headquartered in Norwalk, Conn.

Bankrupt Eastern Airlines and its unsecured creditors in New York Thursday said they had agreed on a reorganization plan that the airline said will give it a fresh start.

The agreement provides for participation by the carrier's

parent Texas Air Corp. that will enable Eastern to emerge from bankruptcy protection in several months.

The unsecured creditors had been seeking assurance that Continental or Texas Air would back any recapitalisation, rather than the weaker Eastern.

"Texas Air Corp. and Continental... as a result of today's agreement would, in effect, assist in the recapitalisation of Eastern and provide a fresh start for the airline," Eastern said in a statement.

Lack of reform

IMF to snub Sudan

KHARTOUM, Feb 25, (Reuters): Foreign economists said today that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) might suspend Sudan's membership this week for ignoring an ultimatum on economic reform.

"Such a move could affect and programmes by the World Bank and the African Development Bank, which help shore up the debt-ridden and war-torn economy, the economists said."

They said a decision either to suspend Sudan's membership or declare it an "unco-operative country" was likely at a meeting of the fund's executive board in Washington this week.

Sudan has ignored a three-month ultimatum issued by the IMF in November for the introduction of structural economic reforms, the economists said.

These included unifying a two-tier foreign exchange system, lifting state subsidies on basic consumer items and privatising loss-making state enterprises.

An economist attached to a Western embassy in Khartoum said an IMF move to suspend Sudan would have considerable psychological significance.

The IMF declared Sudan ineligible for new credits in February 1986 after it failed to pay its debts. Sudan has since borrowed \$1.5 billion in arrears to the IMF.

Traditional backers such as Britain, West Germany, France and the Netherlands have drastically cut aid to Sudan in the past few years and the United States has suspended all aid except for humanitarian purposes.

Japan and Italy however have continued significant aid programmes, the economists said. A new agreement with the IMF could have led to a new influx of foreign aid.

A national conference on the economy organised by the government last year recommended reforms similar to those prescribed by the IMF.

But the military junta led by General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, which took power in a coup in June, has done little to comply.

Sudan's economy, shattered by a seven-year-old civil war, is saddled with more than \$13 billion of foreign debt it cannot repay and annual inflation of more than 100 per cent.

Industry is running at a tiny fraction of capacity and war, famine and disease last year killed 250,000 people.

This year there has been an upsurge in clashes with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, fighting what it sees as domination of the mainly Muslim and Christian south by the Muslim, Arabised north.

"Only a handful of factories are at present operating," said a foreigner representing a multinational company in Khartoum.

The government had supplied only a tenth of an estimated \$350 million needed in the fiscal year ending June 30 to import raw materials for businesses, he said.

Laos signs US oil deal

BANGKOK, Feb 25, (UPI): Laos has signed an oil exploration agreement with the Hunt Oil Co. of Texas, apparently the first US company to win petroleum exploration rights in communist Indochina, the official Lao News Agency reported today.

The Khaoan Pathet Lao agency said the Lao Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts and the Lao Hunt Oil Co., a branch of the Dallas-based Hunt Oil Co., signed the agreement in Vientiane on Friday.

It said the company was given 10,150 square miles (26,290 sq km) of exploration area near Pakse in southern Laos.

The agreement specifies the two-year period of initial survey, possibly being extended by four terms of two years each," the news agency said.

"It said the Hunt Company would conduct a geological survey for the first two years but did not mention how much money the company would invest in the project.

The contract is believed to be the first to allow a US company to explore for petroleum in Laos, most of which has never been surveyed for oil.

Tehran to invest \$32b in industry

KERMAN, Iran, Feb 25, (Opecna): Some \$32 billion will be invested in the industrial and mining sector during the first five-year plan, according to Hamid Mirzadeh, Iran's Vice-President for Executive Affairs.

Mirzadeh said he is to inspect economic and social projects in this southern province.

He said Kerman could play an important role both in industrial production and export of non-oil goods, as around 40 per cent of the country's non-oil exports emanated from this province.

Mirzadeh said it was expected that Iran would earn \$18 billion from the export of non-oil goods during the five-year plan.

Last week, the Iranian economic commission decided that 10 per cent of the earnings from non-oil exports would be returned to the province which had produced the goods or commodities exported, a step which would bring in considerable revenues to Kerman as it tops the list among producers of non-oil commodities in the country.

The new Iranian budget (1990-91) projects revenues from oil and gas at \$15.47 billion, up by 11 per cent over forecasts made earlier.

Income from gas is expected to reach \$282.9 million this year.

Non-oil revenues for the current year have been estimated at \$19.55 billion, an increase of \$31.51 million over earlier estimates.

The Iranian year begins on March 20.

These and other figures are part of the 1990-91 budget presented to the Majlis — the national parliament — Tuesday by President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

According to the document, oil output from land and offshore wells will rise to 3.57 million bpd during the year. Export of oil products, including fuel oil and liquefied gas, will fetch \$407 million, an increase of 123 per cent over the previous year.

Construction work on two oil refineries at Arak, central province, and the southern port city of Bandar Abbas is to be continued. With the completion of two additional refining projects in 1993-94, "the country's imports of oil products will be fully cut off."

Work on building the second phase of the Kangan gas project in Bushehr province will start this year, with completion expected in 1991-92. This will add 45 million m³ of natural gas daily to the overall gas production capacity of the country.

During the year, liquefied gas output will rise by 28 per cent over the previous year, leaving a surplus for export. About 830 km of trunk gas pipelines and 3,832 km of inter-city gas networks will be laid, an increase of 51 per cent and 31 per cent respectively over 1989-90.

The Iranian president said the government's principal concern was public education, although due provision had been made for defence. "Obviously, there are areas which would warrant our falling back on foreign facilities whose results we will see in the years to come. What is of immediate concern for us is that we can provide for the means that we need," he added.

Speaking about the new five-year development plan, he said although some people had described it as "ambitious," it had been formulated in line with "our present facilities."

He went on to say: "Naturally, if we are in a position to come to terms with the world powers, we might then perhaps prove more ambitious in our national planning." He added that if the need arose, the Iranian people would put up with a "period of austerity" to ensure the successful implementation of the development plan.

Rafsanjani called the new budget "liberal" with regard to the country's "deprived areas" whose number he gave as 212, stressing that the government was responsible for allocating adequate resources for them.

Programmes in these underdeveloped regions, he added, would be concentrated on public education, electrification, roads, health services and drinking water.

He said during the plan period, \$2.25 billion would be invested in the programme as follows: public education (1.2 billion), health (\$15.25 million), rural electricity (\$309.43 million), rural roads (1.14 billion). In 1990-91, he added, \$67.77 million will be made available on this account.

Non-oil revenues are estimated at \$19.55 billion, up by 25.2 per cent on the sum forecast. Agriculture will receive 2.27 billion. Copper production will be increased substantially and an additional capacity of 220,000 tonnes will be added to the aluminium industry. A wide range of equipment, including that required by the petrochemical industry, will be manufactured domestically.

About 1,800 km of main, side and rural roads will be built in the budget year, 2,610 km asphalted and 528 km improved. The Iranian railways will be able to transport eight million passengers and 16 million tonnes of load to various parts of the country.

Islamic finance firm goes on trial

CAIRO, Feb 25, (Reuters): One of Egypt's biggest Islamic finance companies went on trial today charged with swindling investors out of \$730 million over six years.

The chairman of Rayan Islamic Investment Company, Ahmed Tawfik Abdel Fattah, 33, was brought under heavy guard from a prison where he is already serving sentences totalling 33 years on previous fraud convictions.

His 73-year-old father Tawfik Abdel Fattah was also charged, along with two company employees and eight businessmen accused of helping them funnel millions of dollars out of Egypt.

Two of the businessmen, a Kuwaiti and a Lebanese, are being tried in absentia. All those in court today pleaded not guilty.

The government cracked down on Egypt's more than 160 Islamic investment houses in 1988 following reports they were operating on an unsecured financial basis.

The firms, rejecting fixed interest as un-Islamic, attracted investors by offering annual returns on deposits at least seven per cent higher than bank interest rates.

The government, accusing the companies of using new deposits to pay dividends to old clients, passed legislation requiring them to go public and submit to government scrutiny.

About a dozen such companies were cleared of malpractice and at least six were allowed to continue under the new law. Others are still under investigation.

In November 1988, the government seized assets, cash and documents from Rayan and arrested its owners, saying they failed to abide by the new law.

The charges against the Rayan owners include violating banking and foreign exchange regulations. They are accused of cheating more than 187,000 depositors of about \$1.9 billion (\$730 million) between 1982 and 1988.

The trial resumes on Monday.

Saudi riyal deposits steady

NICOSIA, Feb 25, (Reuters): Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates were mostly steady today in a quiet market on the European weekend, dealers said.

Deposits of 7-3/4 1/4 per cent from 7-5/8 1/8 on Saturday. But the fixed rates were little moved, with one month indicated at 7-13/16 5/8, three months at 8-1/16 7-7/8, six months at 8-1/2 5/16.

The spot riyal firmed to 3.7500/04 to the dollar from 3.7503/06 on Saturday.

Turkey to boost shipbuilding industry

PENDIK, Turkey, Feb 25, (Reuters): Braving wind and rain sweeping in from the Marmara, Turkish welders toil on the hull of a new merchant vessel destined for Poland.

Riding the swell alongside nearby berths at Turkey's state-run Pendik shipyard are two almost complete 26,300 deadweight-tonne (dwt) bulk carriers, also ordered by Poland.

The yard, 35 km (22 miles) east of Istanbul, is a centre of Turkey's drive for a bigger share of the world shipbuilding market, dominated by Japan and other Far Eastern countries.

"Turkey will be a considerable shipbuilding country within the next five years. It is possible our world share may rise above five per cent from about one per cent now," said Emretilin Aktik, director of the Turkish Shipbuilding Industry Inc. Yard.

"In 15 years from now it should be a bright and attractive industry for Turkey, partly because of our lower labour costs," he told Reuters.

The average shipyard worker in Turkey earns about \$12 a day, a fraction of the salary earned by his average northern European counterpart.

The Pendik yard is undergoing a major expansion. At the end of 1991 a new dry dock, allowing construction of vessels of up to 170,000 dwt compared with a maximum of around 60,000 dwt now, is likely to become operational.

Aktik did not give the cost of the vessels being built for Poland, the first of which will be delivered in June, but said the market price was \$22 million each.

On ship exports, he said Turkey was in contact with Norway and saw the Soviet Union as a tempting market.

Naci Cankaya, chairman of the Istanbul-based chamber of ship engineers, said Turkey aimed to build about 910,000 dwt of merchant shipping a year in the five years to 1994, compared with a previous annual, average of 320,000 dwt.

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Philippines at the ASK

Representing the "Philippines" during the International Week Celebrations at the American School of Kuwait, top left: Michelle Tantoco, Michelle Paras, Madylene Paras (Winnowing Dancers), bottom: Sylvia Suaverdez and Ricky Sandoval (Tinkling Dancers).

BBC world service highlights

Global Concerns

Last year World Service broadcast Global Concerns, a short series of programmes which examined environmental issues world-wide. So successful was the series that it is returning as a regular weekly programme that will run all year around. Noreen Alexander will be drawing together all the elements of environmental matters which until now have been reported in a variety of programmes. Global concerns will not be looking only at headline-grabbing stories such as the Greenhouse Effect but all the ways in which human activity is changing the natural world, and the ways in which we can alter the situation. Friday, March 2, at 14.15

Other-wise

Increasing numbers of people in the West are forsaking drugs, doctors and hospitals for 'alternative' medicine such as acupuncture and reflexology. In a new series of four programmes Robert Eagle assesses some of these therapies beginning with homeopathy and herbalism. Friday, March 2 at 10.30 and 15.15.

Six of the best: the hit man

Dulcie Gray, Michael Denison and Philip Sully star in this comedy by J.C.W. Brook. It is the story of George who is feeling bored and in need of a change after 45 years of marriage. Before he can do anything he must dispose of his wife and to do this he has enlisted the help of Mr Romero, a Sicilian hit man. Thursday, March 1 at 14.30 and 20.15 and Friday, March 2 at 5.30.

Composer Cameos

The 18th century French composer Jean-Marie Leclair was stabbed to death, probably by a jealous nephew. In the first of a series of six profiles of lesser-known composers Stephen Dodgson looks at the life and work of Leclair who is probably best remembered for his violin sonatas and his opera Scylla and Glaucus.

Tuesday, February 27 at 12.45 and 17.45. Recommended frequencies are: 17.64MHz/17.01m, 15.07MHz/19.91m, 11.76MHz/25.51m.

CRUISE

- Al Andalus Arabic film
- Al Salmiyah Hall Booked
- Al Hamra Batuan
- Drive-in Arabic film
- Al Firdous Agnes Path
- Fahad Open Fahad Arabic film
- Al Jahra Nowhere to Hide
- Granada Too hot to Trot
- Salsibikhat License to Kill
- Jleeb Accident Swagatham
- Ahmad Drive-in Arabic film

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.58 am
Zohr	12.01 pm
Asr	3.18 pm
Maghreb	5.45 pm
Isha	6.02 pm



The Skin of Our Teeth

This is a reminder about ACT's production of Thornton Wilder's comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth". Wilder was never wilder than with this play that presents the history of mankind in three disaster-filled acts. The large cast has been working hard since December to bring you another high quality evening of entertainment. Be sure not to miss it. The play will be presented on February 27, 28 and March 1 at 8.00 pm at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets can be reserved by calling 5725071 or 5731782. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the night of the performance.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1		KTV 2	
MORNING		MORNING	
9.30 Opening and Holy Quran		12.00 New summary	
9.40 Sabah Al Kheir, news		12.05 The World Today via Satellite	
9.50 Cartoon Serial		12.25 Holy Quran and closedown	
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)		KTV 2	
10.30 Shuaa Min Al Madhi: Arabic Serial (part 11)		6.00 Opening - announcement and Holy Quran	
11.45 From My Kitchen: local serial (part 9), starring Abdul Husain Abdul Redha, Mohammed Jaber and Abdullah Khraibit		6.10 Winnie The Pooh. A cartoon series for children.	
12.30 News summary		6.30 Wild South. Snare "Gift of the sea". A look at animal life on an island where natural balance still exists.	
12.35 Holy Quran and closedown		7.00 Roving Report. A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news.	
EVENING		7.30 Trap. "Legacy of Terror" Old "Rodolf" Lives alone in a haunted house... He meets Sofi and Mary by chance and invites them to stay with him. They face unexpected horrible scenes...	
4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran		8.00 News in English	
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)		8.30 Around The World. A variety of topics and events from all over the world.	
4.45 Saham Al Fadh: Cartoon serial		9.00 Tour of Duty. "Nightmare" Mickey's chopper goes down in the jungle and the men go out to find him. Bravo Company runs into a Quaker woman, nursing the villagers at one of the towns. Later, Perceci saves her from being raped and finds himself facing a manslaughter charge...	
5.15 Mama Anisa and Children: local children programme, prepared by and presented by Samiya Mohammed Mama Anisa		10.00 Homeroom	
5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements		10.30 The coloured movie. "The last of the Mohicans" Starring: Randolph Scott, Penny Barnes. Incidents during America's French-Indian war.	
6.00 Wa Qala Hakeem: Historical serial		12.00 News in Brief	
7.00 Varieties		12.15 Magazine D'Actualite	
7.15 Holy Quran and science: Religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ahmad Shawqi			
8.00 Cultural programme			
8.30 Good Evening and local news			
9.00 News in Arabic			
9.45 Omsiyat Al Ethneen: local programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barje			
10.15 Illa Al Shabab Maa Al Taheya: New Gulf serial (part 2). Starring: Saad Al Faraj, Saad Abdullah, Hind Kamel			
11.00 Al Mawed: variety programme (part 8).			

ARTS

Hobby Centre
REKRA is a weekend centre for children to make pictures, flowers, toys etc. with felt. This new craft course will start February 27th and March 4th for 6 weeks for children from 8 years old. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Seminar
The seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

SOCIAL

Milad mahfil
A Milad mahfil has been organised by the Bandhan Natya Chakra on Feb 28, at 6.30 pm at the Bangladesh Embassy (Khalidya), to pay tribute to the martyrs of the Language Movement. The Ambassador of Bangladesh K.M. Shehabuddin will be the chief guest. All Bangladeshis are cordially invited.

Children's variety show
RANGDHANU, a children's variety show which includes a play, will be staged on March 1, Thursday at the Theatre Hall of Kuwait University Law Faculty, Shuwaikh campus, at 6.30 pm. For cards contact 4840759, 4312730, 4312280, 4733106 or 3729425.

II Annual one act Play Competition
INDIAN Arts Circle announces the II Annual One Act Play Competition to be held in May 1990. The competition is open to Plays in any Indian language including English. Awards shall include Best Play (1st, 2nd & 3rd). Best Director, Best Actor & Actress, Best Child Actor, Best Stage Setting and Best Acting Performance from each team. Registration form with rules & regulations are available from Indian Arts Circle office at Funaitees. Last date of submitting registration form with required details is 28th February, 1990. Please contact IAC office (Tel. 3904817) for further details. All Indian associations engaged in theatrical activities are requested to join.

Kuwait Welsh Society
ST. DAVID'S Day buffet dinner Thursday, 1st March 1990 at Messilah Beach Hotel. For more information ring 3713467, 3912384, 5625316.

Canadian Women's League
AN invitation is extended to all Canadian women to attend this month's meeting which will be held on Saturday, March 3, from 4 to 6 pm in October. For more information contact 2563025 or 2563867.

Goan Welfare Society
MARCH 2 - Friday Goan Welfare Society meeting will be held at Ramada Salam Hotel on 2nd March at 10 am followed by a reception at 12 noon for the Goan football team who won the exhibition match recently in Kuwait Goa vs Kerala.

Sultan Gallery
INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of her latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolla. Royce showrooms. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm. Art.

ACT's production of the Skin of Our Teeth at UAS, Salwa, 8 pm, Feb 27, 28 and March 1. Directed by George Plautz. For reservations please call 5725071, 5731782.

Ladies International League of Kuwait
JOIN us at our next meeting on Monday, March 5, at the Holiday Inn. Doors open at 3.30, programme at 4.30. Hope to see you ladies there. Door charge.

Steps Ballet School
WE announce that we are now the official co-ordinators for the Royal Academy of Dancing, London. We invite any teachers of ballet here in Kuwait to contact us if they would like to enter any of their students for the Royal Academy of Dance Examinations which will be held this coming May 1990. Entries must be in by March 31. Examinations will be held sometime in May for our own students, and outside students of other teachers are welcome to enter their children also. Please contact us on 5386481 from 9 to 12 noon only. In the afternoons, 5653216/8 ext 55, from 4 to 7 pm. (the examination session will be conducted by a visiting examiner from the Royal Academy of Dance, London, as is usual for Steps Ballet School. RAD candidates.)

Craft Centre
MOTHERS are your hands too full with your tots on weekends? Here's a chance for you to relax and introduce them to creative art. For details contact 5635740, between 9 - 12 noon.

Spring Bazaar for Khalifa School
YOU are invited to an exhibition display of handicrafts and gift items on Thursday, March 1, 1990 at Kuwait International Hotel's Old Failaka Room from 10 am to 7 pm. Of the products on display are Latin American rugs, silver, souvenirs, brassware, decoupage, ceramics and other works of art. All donations for the Khalifa School will go to the handicapped.

Martyrs' Day: Shatadal Cultural Group
FEB 27: Shatadal Cultural Group will be holding their Martyrs' Day at the Messilah Beach Hotel's Al Amal Hall at 6.30 pm on February 27. The programme includes a seminar, poems recitation and songs.

Ladies International League
LIL newcomers: A coffee morning will be held on Feb 26 at the Sheraton Hotel from 10 am to 12 noon. Newcomers to LIL and Kuwait will be most welcome. For further information please call Ann on 5316905.

Bite n' Pieces
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

APPROB essay competition
ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (APPROB) has extended the last date of its essay competition from 15th March to 15th April. The essay competition on the topic "My role in building a better Pakistan" is being held on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Pakistan Resolution.

Pakistani students in the age group of between 12-14 (juniors) and 15-18 (seniors) are invited to write their essays in Urdu or English, which should be between 1,000 to 1,500 words.

Four prizes of KD 100 each (2 each for Urdu and English) will be awarded to the best articles in each group with other consolation prizes for deserving participants.

The panel of judges is headed by Dr M.I. Saleem, Dr. Ali Jaffrey and Abdus Sattar Ghazali. For further details, contact: Tel. APPROB: 2425315 Fax: 5523751.

Amadeus Chamber Orchestra
THE 20 member Amadeus Chamber Orchestra led by Mrs Agnieszka Duczmal will be performing at the Kuwait International Hotel on 4th and 5th March. The Amadeus Chamber Orchestra has performed frequently in Poland and in over 18 European countries as well as in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Brazil. Tickets on sale at: 2530000 ext 4010.

Ash Wednesday (Feb 28, 1990)
The Holy Family Cathedral. Day of fast and abstinence. Holy mass - English - 6.45 am Holy mass - English - 7.30 am Holy mass - English - 4.30 pm Holy mass - English - 5.30 pm Holy mass - English - 6.30 pm Holy mass - English - 8.30 pm

Hobby Centre
A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making - For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

SPORTS

Kuwait International Hotel
FIT FOR LIFE: Qualified Austrian masseur specialising in foot reflexology, acupressure, athletic and relaxation massage available everyday. Tennis clinics on-going for all levels of play including Junior, Ladies and Adult sessions with Frank Novak - an experienced Canadian coach and tennis professional. Classes total 4 weeks in length and meet twice each week. Private coaching also available and fun tennis sessions for the family. Ladies' Keep Fit Classes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ladies' Sauna now offers a 50 per cent discount on the usual entrance fee. Ladies' Day on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm. For details please call: 2530000/8050 (Recreation).

Tivim Centre
TIVIM Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Inter Village Football Tournament which will be held

on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 27/28th 1990. For further information please contact organisers: 2441860 Casimiro.

ACOI seven-a-side
ACOI overseas is pleased to announce their first one day football tournament which will be held on the March 2, 1990, at the Sour Grounds.

For further information contact, Casimiro D'Souza or Menno Leitao at the Sour Grounds.

Apollo Fitness Centre at Holiday Inn Kuwait
Julie Dent wants you ... to check out the new look at Holiday Inn and make 1990 the year for a happier, healthier you. Squash and tennis courts with professional coaches available. Separate gym facilities for men and women, including steam, sauna and jacuzzi. Burn off those extra pounds in Julie's exercise classes or swim your way to fitness in our heated pools. Why not try out our 4-lanes bowling alley or simply relax in the lounge with friends. You have tried the rest, now sample the best. Call in now for further details on membership, activities and events ... There is something for everyone. So, whatever your sport, call now on 4742000 ext. 6700 or ext. 6788 for the recreation manager.

MBH Sports Centre
Life saving course, with Royal Life Saving Society Coach, Grade 1 Examiner will be commencing shortly. Ergocycle Fitness Computer

tests and courses now available at Messilah. Jazzercise/Aerobics/Staying power/Yoga and Ballet exercise classes also available.

HOTELS

Le Meridien
VERSAILLES: Take advantage of our great value business lunch which includes starter, main course, dessert and coffee.

Or in relaxing atmosphere provided by our resident artist you can relish the finest cuisine from our A La Carte menu, which features specialties from our chef as fish or beef "fondue", grilled beef on "brasserie" ham and salmon on "shingle" among others.

GREEK TAVERNA: Every Tuesday at La Brasserie - Enjoy a little Mediterranean Magic, real Bouzouki music and dreamy Greek island specialties and atmosphere.

The Sheraton
COFFEE SHOP: A new attraction is the seafood night every Monday where some of the best of sea foods are prepared. For a taste of the best of preparations of sweet + sour hamour, fried shrimps Thai style, etc. New dishes every week.

LE TARBOUCHE: Open for lunch and dinner Le Tar-

INDONESIAN CORNER: Every Wednesday at La Brasserie - Enjoy Indonesian cuisine in addition to our daily lavish buffet. Our chef will prepare Indonesian specialties in front of you.

JAZZ NIGHT: Every Thursday at La Brasserie - Enjoy New Orleans atmosphere with jazz and seafood specialties.

ORIENTAL BUFFET LUNCH: Every Friday at La Brasserie - Enjoy a typical Oriental buffet lunch with Oriental buffet.

The Sheraton
COFFEE SHOP: A new attraction is the seafood night every Monday where some of the best of sea foods are prepared. For a taste of the best of preparations of sweet + sour hamour, fried shrimps Thai style, etc. New dishes every week.

LE TARBOUCHE: Open for lunch and dinner Le Tar-

bouche offers a wide selection of hot + cold mezza. Every Thursday evening the Arab world specialties buffet features popular dishes from different Arab countries. Evening entertainment from our Oud player.

AL HAMBRA: Enjoy the Arabian night theme at the Al Hambra with delicious Arabic dishes buffet style. Enjoy a family brunch every Friday with entertainment and surprises for the children. Nightly entertainment by Gili Amici.

SYRIAN FESTIVAL: The Syrian Festival will take place March 3-7, '90 with an exhibition in the lobby featuring traditional handicrafts, fashion and information on Syria. A festival with evening performance will be held in the new grand ballroom during this period followed by a superb buffet. For more information call on 2422055 ext. 675.



Outstanding performance

Indian Ambassador to Kuwait A.K. Budhiraja giving away the prize to Arshad Zeya of New Indian School, Jabriya, for his outstanding performance on the Annual Prize day last week.



Yum Yum America Festival at the Kuwait Sheraton

Once again the Yum Yum America Festival comes to the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel with its splendid display of American flavour. Sheraton's salute to the Stars and Stripes has resulted in a transformation beyond Wild West dreams! The Hunt Room has been transformed into a Wild West country with litesize wagons, Indian tents, sheriff's office and even a jail. Tuck into juicy T-bone steaks and hot 'n' spicy chilli con carne, creamy scallops with mushrooms, lasagna chicken creole, corn-on-the-cob, a tempting choice of desserts all topped with the all time favourite home backed flavour American apple pie. Kids will enjoy the Bucking Bronco and a free Polaroid to remember the one time rodeo ride. For a festival to remember once again for one week at the Hunt Room - feel at liberty to indulge at the Yum Yum America.

Learning the subtle art of flirting

Melanie Rein can't stop flirting — yet her husband doesn't mind. He knows she's just putting her theories into practice.

"Flirting is a natural, fun thing to do," she told me. "It's a way of dealing with your own sexuality and feeling attractive."

Even if you are in a steady relationship, it's nice to know someone else finds desirable.

Fair-haired and "thirty-something", Melanie says she never gets jealous when her husband, Anthony, flirts with another woman. "I trust him — and I'm really quite flattered that other women fancy him."

"He never objects to my flirting with other men either."

Now the trained social worker is teaching others to flirt, running courses on the subject from her large Victorian house in North London.

Five-year-married Melanie certainly has the credentials. She admits that, when she met the man she would eventually marry, she spent the entire evening flirting with him and continued to flirt for weeks before agreeing to go on a date.

So is she the perfect flirt? "There is no such thing," she told me. "Women are naturally better flirts than men because they are better communicators."

Flirting is about communicating and waiting to tell the other person that you find them desirable without necessarily wanting to jump into bed with them.

"Many men find it difficult to flirt and have to learn how to do it."

"My course attracts a number of men, from city businessmen who want to meet women, to shy

Meet a happily-married woman who believes there's a lot to be gained from chatting up the opposite sex with a twinkle in your eye. She's even running courses for the uninitiated...

young, office boys, desperate to chat up girls of their own age.

So what's the secret? "There's an art to it," she told me. "A person should be subtle and not obvious when showing interest in the opposite sex."

"That means no winking or groping because most women and men either find it offensive or think it's the ultimate come-on. Either way, your partner not going to treat you with much respect."

"I met a man who tried to pick women up by winking at them across the bar. Obviously he wasn't having much luck and I had to sit him down and put him in the woman's position. Only then could he see how ridiculous he looked and how threatening his behaviour was."

Smile

Instead, she recommends smiling. "A smile can convey many feelings such as caring," she told me. "If someone smiles at me across a room I think 'What a nice person' and want to go and talk to them."

"A smile makes a person more approachable and is a way of saying 'hey, look at me' rather than 'let's go to bed'."

Body language is also very important. "If I see someone sitting in a corner with both their arms and legs crossed, I think the person is very nervous and afraid of their own sexuality, so I don't

bother to approach them."

"But if I see someone who is sitting in a relaxed manner, with open arms, I'm drawn to them because they're the kind of person I'll want to flirt with."

Many a flirtation begins at eye level, according to Melanie. "Eye contact is very important. It tells the other person you find their appearance pleasing and what to get to know them better. It's a way of introducing yourself and offering encouragement to the shy."

Touching

But touching is definitely out because most women — and some men — hate it. Melanie told me: "I hate men putting their arm around me or touching my knee because that makes me think they're only after one thing — getting me into bed. They're not the sort of person who is willing to spend time talking to me without any sexual taking place."

Flirting is associated with sleeping around and some men presume that only 'fast women' flirt. That's not true — I have friends who are in happy relationships and flirt all the time. It can be fun and good for the ego."

Melanie believes the best place to attract the attention of the opposite sex and to overcome bashfulness is at a party.

She explained: "Going to a party and not knowing anyone

can be difficult. You either want the ground to swallow you up or you decide to gain some dutch courage and drink. But if you start talking to someone and begin to flirt, your self-confidence comes back."

"It's also easier to flirt at a party because every one is doing it, in a 'no strings attached' way, so it means you can walk at the end of the evening if you're not too interested in the person."

There are some situations, however, where flirting isn't recommended. "It's not very safe flirting with someone on a train because if the other person misunderstands the signals you're giving them, you're putting yourself in a dangerous position."

Flirting with your boss is also unwise because it could lead to an affair and not a good way to advance your career."

She emphasises the importance of the correct clothes. "Women think they have to wear sexy clothes to be able to flirt well. They don't understand that if they feel uncomfortable in these clothes, they're not going to be confident and will feel conscious of leading a man on."

"However, if you're wearing your favourite jumper, you'll be much more relaxed and not worrying about which parts of your body are exposed."

Being a good listener is vital, too — something that women are

better at than men. "Listening shows that you care about this person and want to know more about them," said Melanie. "Someone who can't listen to other people is selfish and boring and not worth flirting with."

But can an innocent flirtation lead to a long-term relationship? "Yes, you can develop the relationship," she said, giving her own marriage as the perfect example.

"Once interest on both sides has been established, you should try to show this person that you want to see them again. Be pushy. Mention a film you want to see, offer your phone number or take address and write them a funny letter."

Risky

"Starting up any relationship can be risky but if you already know and like this person through flirting with them, you know at least that you enjoy being with them."

"I have friends who really fancied this guy at work. She flirted with him and knew he was interested in her but couldn't understand why he wouldn't ask her out."

"So she decided to take the initiative and write him a letter. It worked — he asked her out and they now have a steady relationship."

Melanie, happy in her flirtatious marriage, told me: "Most people don't admit to flirting because some sort of taboo surrounds the subject."

"But we all do it and enjoy it and, who knows? If you choose the right person to flirt with, you could — like me — find a mate for life."



Flirting course instructor Melanie Rein, says eye contact, followed by a smile, offers encouragement to a suiter.

Video feedback improves your communication

NEW YORK (UPI) — Effective communication is vital to success in business, yet expert Bert Decker says many executives and salespeople are woefully lacking in good communication skills.

"Communication is a contact sport," said Decker, founder of Decker Communications Inc., a training company headquartered in San Francisco with offices in New York, Los Angeles, Sunnyvale and Newport Beach, Calif.

"When you consider all the nuances, the hundreds of cues that you give off how you use words, your speed of wit and your openness are absolutely critical to somebody believing you and taking action."

Decker, a former film-maker, uses extensive video feedback and one-on-one coaching in training sessions to help people in business tap their communication potential.

"When you see yourself on video it's different than looking in a mirror. Physically it's not different at all, but psychologically it's vast," he said. "There's a disparity you have in how you think you're coming across, and then you see a stranger up there (on the TV screen). Everybody has a disparity."

Decker said that disparity — between how we view ourselves and how others view us — is the biggest obstacle to effective communication. "We all undermine ourselves. We all think we are better than we really are."

Objective
Decker videotapes his students repeatedly during intensive workshops to help them become more objective about how other people perceive them.

"The more people can get on videotape and become more objective about themselves, the more effective they'll be at communicating, even on the phone," he said. "There's a tremendous confidence increase when people see themselves on videotape, maybe not the first time, but after the third or fourth time."

Decker counts among his clients top executives of some of America's biggest corporations, including American Telephone and Telegraph Co., Touche-Rose (now Deloitte and Touche), General Electric Co., Intel Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co. Decker said his students at Hewlett-Packard are "People who are travelling to be technically bright, brilliant, but don't think they have to speak it."

"We say, 'you may have the most brilliant idea in the world, the greatest plan, the greatest engineering masterpiece, but if you can't convince somebody to support the budget, if you can't show confidence in the project, you'll be nowhere with it.'"

Decker said executives and salespeople in small- and medium-sized companies and self-employed people can benefit from video feedback, too.

Inspire
"Take a small-business owner who's calling the troops together after a bad quarter. If it's done consistently with no knowledge of oneself, it won't do a thing to inspire people to be more productive and that can cost thousands of dollars."

He said it also suggests the skin screenings, which are held each spring at scores of locations around United States, might someday prove as effective in detecting early skin cancer as PAP smear tests for cervical cancer or mammography for breast cancer.

"Although the screening

Skin cancer

Early detection is best hope for longer survival

BOSTON (UPI) — This year, about 500,000 Americans will develop skin cancer. Most will have a highly curable form, but 27,000 people will be diagnosed with a potentially deadly type known as melanoma.

For melanoma sufferers, doctors say the best hope for long-term survival is early diagnosis. A new study suggests that a free nation-wide screening programme begun in 1975 can be highly effective in detecting melanoma and other skin cancers at an early stage.

The study marked the first comprehensive follow-up of people who were thought to have skin abnormalities when doctors examined them visually. They were told to go to their physicians or dermatologists for further diagnosis.

Researchers at Boston University's School of Medicine and Public Health tracked down 289 people out of 787 in Massachusetts who had "seemingly abnormal" skin when they were examined at 14 locations around the state in 1986 and 1987. Another 1,773 people screened at the same time had normal results.

Dr Howard Koh, who led the study, said that among these 288, there were nine confirmed cases of melanoma and 133 other types of skin cancers. To Koh, the figures indicate the screening programme is successfully attracting people who are at greater risk of developing skin cancer.

Risk
In the general population, the melanoma rate is one in 10,000. But among those in Koh's study, the rate was nearly one in 300.

"This implies to us that the right people — those at high risk — are coming out to take advantage of the screenings," said Koh, an associate professor at the university.

He said it also suggests the skin screenings, which are held each spring at scores of locations around United States, might someday prove as effective in detecting early skin cancer as PAP smear tests for cervical cancer or mammography for breast cancer.

"Although the screening

programme is not new, there's been very little effort to find what happened to people after they were examined," Koh said. "We were very encouraged what we found."

The screenings, usually held May and June, are sponsored by the American Academy of Dermatology. The results of the study appeared recently in *Journal of Cancer*.

Koh said the incidence of melanoma in the United States has reached "epidemic proportions" in recent years for reasons that are not fully understood. The National Cancer Institute says that between 1973 and 1987 the melanoma rate increased 90 per cent among men and 59 per cent among women.

Factors
The chief factors that predispose people to melanoma, other skin cancers are thought to be skin type and degree of exposure to sunlight, said Gary Rogers, who is co-director with Koh of a new skin cancer centre at University Hospital Boston.

Those at highest risk are "fair skin, freckling, blue eyes and a family history of skin cancer," said Rogers. People of the Irish background appear to have a higher risk than people of Scandinavian descent.

Rogers said another apparent risk factor appears to involve duration and intensity of a son's exposure to the sun during teenage and early adult years. "It seems that receiving tanning beds of sun during years 12 to 25 increases the cancer risk," Rogers said.

The most common and curable forms of skin cancer are the type Ronald Reagan experienced — are almost a life-threatening, but can be figured unless diagnosed early.

But among melanoma patients, Rogers said, early diagnosis "can really be a life saver." When the depth of the invasive melanoma tumour is less than one millimetre, he said survival rate is 98 per cent. When the tumour is three to four millimetres deep, only 50 per cent of victims survive for five years.



Life-Like: Golfing comedian Bob Hope



Heart-Throb: The dummy of Tom Selleck, which has proved a winner with Cheryl's customers



Colourful: The model of Carmen Miranda sporting fruit bowls



The model of President Reagan which was given to him by his daughter Patty Davis

Stuffed dummies — ego trip for the stars

A MODEST cheque bought a Hollywood lady the exclusive company of Magnum star Tom Selleck for life.

Today, he rides in the car with her wherever she goes, his rugged image scarifying off would-be assailants. Big Tom sits demurely at posh dinner parties and submits to close encounters on a dozen dance floors.

But, no matter what the situation, the Hollywood hunk never says a word to "owner", oil chief Barbara Barr. In fact, he acts just like the stuffed dummy he really is.

For Barbara is just one of the hundreds of Tinseltown top people beaten by the latest craze of "portrait dolls".

People who thought they had everything, are now realising that there is something woefully lacking in their lives... clones of themselves immortalised in polyester fibre fill.

And that tough old birthday gift problem can be solved at the stroke of a solid gold pen. What happier return there be than a three-dimensional portrait, dressed in your own clothes and sitting permanently in the spotlight?

Down in the surf 'n' sun belt of Malibu, artist Cheryl Wilson is turning out stuffed celebrities as fast as her nimble fingers can fly.

Anybody who is anybody, plus a few nobodies with around \$700 to spare, are asking Cheryl to make them in their own image.

Even President Reagan has one, a thoughtful gift from his daughter Patty Davis. Hugh Hefner's look-alike stands silently at the end of his bed, dressed in the super-playboy's familiar uniform of red silk and satin pyjamas.

It was a surprise birthday present from Hefner's former playmate, Carrie Leigh. Down in Cheryl's busy shop on the Pacific Coast Highway, yet another Tom Selleck has been created. This one, a present from a friend, sits in the great detective's office in a place of honour.

But now petite English dancer Jillie Mack has married Hollywood's hottest heartthrob, orders for the hunky dolls will no doubt begin to flow.

Muscleman

Cheryl flushed slightly as she told me of a minor embarrassment that had occurred in the course of her duties. It came after a man as big as a wall had visited her to ask for a doll of Conan, alias muscleman Arnold Schwarzenegger.

She said: "I had to make Conan's skimpy outfit entirely from scratch. After all, where are you going to find pieces of strategically-placed leather like that?"

"I made the boots, did the studding work and even fashioned the teeth on his

For Hollywood stars, who have everything, there is a new ego trip. For the right price, Malibu artist Cheryl Wilson, who has made lookalikes of Tom Selleck, Bob Hope and Ronald Reagan, will make a stuffed dummy of them... Frank Durham reports:



Cheryl takes it easy with a model of movie legend, Humphrey Bogart.

necklace from silicone. I had just put on Canon's little leather diaper and was stuffing it to get it into the right shape when this older woman walked into the store.

"She started browsing around while I still had my hand down that diaper. I couldn't stop blushing. She sure had caught me at the cookie jar."

Cheryl, who produces a doll in about three weeks, went on shyly: "That body was muscular... and so correct. And I do tend to become a little personally involved with these things. At certain points, they become almost human."

But Cheryl's "weirdest request" has to remain nameless. All she will admit to, is that it turned out to be "anatomically correct."

Another blusher was ordered by a gynaecologist's wife. She described in cool clinical terms the doll she wanted to grace her husband's consulting room desk.

Cheryl said: "She wanted the insides of

woman, made into a sculpture. The doll had to come apart, to show a contraceptive device. It was to be demonstration thing for the doctor's patients, plus a toy and a talking point."

"Thank God I haven't heard any more from that woman so far."

Fm
But Cheryl's job can be fun, too. Like the time a restaurant chain ordered lookalikes of Bob Hope, Humphrey Bogart and Frank Sinatra and then mounted the stars on bicycles.

The dummies were arranged as though they were in furious pursuit of Marilyn Monroe, also on a bicycle, her skirts billowing in the breeze.

Another restaurant ordered a doll of forties Brazilian bombshell Carmen Miranda to whet their diners' appetites. And a John Rivers clone, complete with feathers, was created to celebrate the signing of a big contract.

Cheryl asks people who order doll portraits to tell her every little detail about the subject, so that she can add the personal touch. Her written briefing starts by asking for photographs and a detailed description.

They go on: "Who is this person and what little thing makes them stand out? Does he or she have a mole? What is the texture of their hair? Is there a gap between the two front teeth?"

"Freckles? Glasses? What are their occupation and hobbies? Is there a silly phrase they use? I dunno. You tell me..."

So, when Cheryl was asked to make a doll of moviemaker Alan Metter, she put a packet of cigarettes in his pocket and a phone in his hand.

She added a camera and a script. Then came a problem. Where could she find curly hair just the colour of the tycoon's? Cheryl found the answer when she looked in the mirror... and soon her tresses were shorn and transferred to the doll.

There is not much the girl, who once a cartoonist, won't do in the cause of her art. Mr Metter was so pleased with his portrait that he had a special case built for it — right in the middle of his living-room.

And to add a personal touch to Bob Hope, whose doll was ordered by fellow artist Toni Naples, Cheryl added a characteristic golf club.

Ron Howard, who directed *Cocoon*, held a megaphone in one hand, and Johnny Carson, America's top talk show host, sported a tennis racket.

Cheryl even made a duck-hunting freak in the form of his favourite quarry, with a beak that could be lowered and raised over his face. His wife thought it was funny.

Producer Peter Douglas, son of Kirk, reclined in a movie set chair, with his name on it, resplendent in white braces. His girlfriend had supplied just the right details for a true-to-life portrait.

Cheryl can even improve on real life. A pretty blonde asked the artist to transform her likeness into a glamorous princess.

Cheryl's finished doll was resplendent with rhinestone, beading, diamond jewellery and a long elegant cigarette holder.

And oil billionaire Marvin Davis, who used to own 20th Century Fox, ordered miniature models of his whole family to decorate his Christmas tree.

Down in Malibu, the celebrities, alter egos are being born thick and fast. It has transformed Cheryl's life into one long playtime.

She told me: "I loved dolls when I was kid. And there's nothing like playing dolls for the rest of your life."

Especially when they can earn a girl a pot of that Hollywood gold.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

THREE BASIC TYPES OF PAINKILLERS ARE AVAILABLE

Question: I'm totally confused by all the different brands of painkillers on the market and their advertising claims. They can't all be the best one, yet that's what they seem to say. Can you tell me which one I should take when my pains and aches get out of hand?

Answer: I'm mixed up sometimes too, and I'm surprised to know the differences that exist between the different pain preparations available over the counter without prescription. It becomes a bit simpler, however, when you realise that all the different names and claims concern only three basic medications: aspirin, acetaminophen and ibuprofen.

Aspirin (the principle ingredient is acetylsalicylic acid), also known as Bayer, St. Joseph and Bufferin, among others, has been with us the longest. It is a useful pain medication to reduce muscle aches, headaches and toothaches, is effective in controlling menstrual cramps, long has been used as a medication for arthritis, will help lower a fever, and has of late been recommended as a prevention of heart attacks (which it does by acting on blood platelets and reducing clot formation). However, it may cause stomach ulcers and gastrointestinal bleeding.

Acetaminophen is the active ingredient in Tylenol, Advil, and several other medications. It is advertised as "non-aspirin" pain medications. It will relieve a headache, is useful in the flu season, help reduce a fever and ease a muscle strain, but it's not an anti-inflammatory drug and will not reduce a swelling. It is only of limited use for arthritis and when the cause of pain is due to the production of prostaglandins by the body (as in menorrhagia), this product, which is not a prostaglandin inhibitor, will not work well.

Ibuprofen is the latest kid on the block, and is the medication found in Nuprin, Mediprin, Advil and Motrin (by prescription only in higher doses). It is a potent

anti-prostaglandin and is effective, not for general and pains, but particularly useful for inflammatory ailments such as arthritis and severe muscle injury sprains. It can cause stomach irritation and is best after meals or when the stomach is full.

My best advice to you is to try a product, and stick to it works well for your problem. Switching around between similar products with different brand names is a waste of time and money.

I thought you would like to know: From the numerous questions I regularly receive on the subject of snoring, it is clear that a booklet about snoring should respond to the needs of many. All the answers are well treated in the pamphlet, *Snoring: Funny, Not Hopeless*, which is yours for free. As your request to: Snoring Booklet, The New York and East River, Second Avenue and Fourteenth Street, New York, New York 10003.

The publication is one of an authoritative set of patient education publications published by the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and this one is up to their usual high standard of excellence. Snoring and "Is Snoring Serious?" there is an excellent illustration that depicts the structures found in the mouth, nose and throat that relate to the problem of snoring. A list of suggestions and actions to be taken to this sleep disturbing situation makes this publication most practical one.

Dr Allan Bruckheim welcomes questions from me. Although he cannot respond to each one individually, he will answer those of general interest in this column. To Dr. Bruckheim in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box Orlando, Fla. 32802-0119.



The cat that got the cream—but giving your pet dairy products could take years of its life.

Taking care of pets

It's all a matter of killing them with kindness

A top Hollywood vet says millions of dogs and cats are dying because some owners serve them "treats" like beef, tuna and lashings of cream. Too much protein, he says, is bad for them and has invented a basic bean loaf for cats and dogs...

MILLIONS of pets are dying before their time, simply because they are being fed wrong food, says a Hollywood vet.

Dr Al Plechner claims that meats such as turkey and pork can "poison" dogs. And a diet of tuna can take years off a cat's life. Even a saucer of milk can harm your pet, he says. A cream bun could kill it.

Dr Plechner, who looks after the stars' pets, claims poor food and "designer" breeding "have created an allergy disease epidemic that is ravaging our pet population."

He believes that as many as one out of two animals brought to a vet may be suffering from an allergy. And the doctor claims to have made some amazing cures with pets doomed to die.

He says his revolutionary treatments, including hormone replacement therapy, have turned sick and even vicious pets into glossy, good-natured animals.

Speaking from his Hollywood clinic, the 52-year-old vet told me: "If owners give their pets better food, animals can live many years more. Some of the dogs and cats I have looked after have lived to the grand old age of 26."

Dr Plechner claims to have saved the life of a doomed doberman, Heidi, belonging to William Shatner, Star Trek's Captain Kirk. He invented a special vegetarian diet for her.

And he soon had Beverly Hills top criminal-catcher German

Shepherd, Boss, back on his plush beat after the dog kept going lame. The treatment included a brand new menu. Then there was a Hollywood's actress cat called Oscar, said to be cured of epilepsy by tasty servings of rice and chicken.

Diet Dr Plechner believes that a basically vegetarian pet is a healthy pet. And that means it will live to a ripe old age.

Dr Plechner told me: "In the wild, animals need a high protein diet, so they eat a lot of meat. But when they are domesticated, too much protein can actually make them ill. I've seen dogs in a coma, brought on by too much protein. A few days of clean food soon puts them right."

The vet, whose revolutionary methods have caused a stir all over the world, has invented a basic bean loaf for owners to feed their cats and dogs. It's a mixture of soy beans, brown rice.

Dr Plechner says: "It tastes so good that the owners can't resist eating it themselves. I've known one lady who even served it up for lunch to her friends and they all said how good her cooking was!"

He goes on: "You shouldn't feed your pet anything you could

eat yourself. Too many owners think they're giving their dog a special treat, say, by letting it lick out the roasting dish on a Sunday. But that makes about as much sense as pouring all that heavy grease and gravy into a glass and drinking it down yourself."

Dr Plechner tells his Hollywood pet owners to avoid buying tinned pet food. Or, at least, they should read the labels very carefully to make sure there are no harmful additives in the mixture.

He explained: "Check the label—the longer it is, the worse the food probably is. Good nutrition is simple."

"Instead of tinned food, buy your pet vegetables, salads, pasta and beans. You don't need to cut out meat altogether—the occasional piece of lamb is fine. But steer clear of pork or turkey. Eighty per cent of dogs and cats cannot tolerate pork or turkey. You find a lot of pets sick over Christmas, when they've been fed the leftover turkey or a ham bone for several days."

Careful The Hollywood vet says fish is fine—in moderation. But cat owners should be careful when buying tuna. He adds: "In the

States, some tuna is cooked with the bone. This can create high levels of magnesium and give cats bladder problems. We lose a lot of cats too early from food like tuna."

Dr Plechner says never, ever feed your pet food with large amounts of milk or cream in it. He explains: "It has been known for a long time that a cream cake, to kill an animal. The pancreas gets inflamed and starts to digest itself. The animal can be dead in six hours."

"And, just as important as making sure you feed your pet properly, feed it the right amounts at the right times. It's better to feed a dog several times a day than to expect it to wolf down a whole day's ration in one go. You can imagine how bloated an animal would feel after that."

Dr Plechner thumbed through his amazing casebook. He turned to his most celebrated case, William Shatner's Heidi. When she came to him she was dragging her hind legs badly. Yet after vet said Heidi had spinal damage and would have to be put down.

But Dr Plechner took one look at the X-rays and told the Shatners to put the dog on his specially-invented vegetable diet. Within

24 hours the dog, which everybody had thought would have to die, was racing around.

Another of Dr Plechner's patients was an old cat belonging to Chris Costello, the daughter of Lou, of the famous comedy duo Abbott and Costello. Chris had been told the cat had a terminal kidney disease but, when she followed Dr Plechner's advice, the pet recovered and lived for another two healthy years.

Dr Plechner explains: "Too much inbreeding is having an effect on dogs' personalities. Breeders are creating designer dogs, like you'd create a Gucci bag. They may be beautiful to look at but they're all genetic cripples—and that can make them savage."

"I can detect these problems with a simple blood test. More than 30 per cent of aggressive dogs will revert to normal behaviour on something as simple as my lamb and rice diet."

Dr Plechner says there is one simple rule for making a pet live a long healthy life. He claims: anyone who loves their dog or cat should take as much effort with their pet's dinner as they would with their own. It's common sense really. Eating well is the secret to a long life.

League table of food for cats and dogs:

Do feed them: Brown rice, salads, vegetables, pasta, beans, lamb. Don't give them: Milk products, turkey, tuna, gravy and pan scrappings.

The words she put in Reagan's mouth

WHAT I SAW AT THE REVOLUTION, by Peggy Noonan (Random House, 339 pp., \$19.95)

Speechwriters who put words in the president's mouth are supposed to have a passion for anonymity.

Peggy Noonan is an exception, and then some. She also has the pride of authorship that made it possible to overcome many of the obstacles she faced as president Reagan's most eloquent speechwriter. To prove it, she wrote a book, "What I Saw at the Revolution: A Political Life in the Reagan Era."

Noonan's talents shone through, although she ran into a lot of other egos in and around the White House, all of whom wanted to put their marks on the president's most important utterances.

Her opus is skillfully written, fun to read, mean spirited toward a lot of people who were in high places, and makes an admirable attempt at analysing and understanding her fortune—good and bad—to have been where she was. One minute she is a wide-eyed Rebecca of Sunnybrook farm and the next minute she is the infallible "Miss Know It All."

It's also a book about her hero worship of Ronald Reagan, her faltering attempts to meet with him and to fathom him—although he did not seem to know her from Adam. The adulation continued even as she patronised him as an old man.

Because of her writing talent and research of the words of other presidents and of poets and scholars, she turned out good copy. Among the memorable speeches she wrote was Reagan's address to the nation when the shuttle Challenger exploded.

Noonan is from an Irish Catholic family of Democrats and says she was the first among her kin to see the light and become a Republican.

Her great awakening came when she was riding a bus on her way to an anti-war demonstration in Washington. She became upset by her fellow protesters' taunts against the government and decided that the United States' involvement in Vietnam was an attempt to help people realise a communist takeover of the world.

"After college she went to work for CBS as a writer for Dick Cavett and his nightly news programme."

She left to become speechwriter and to her distress, found that at the White House, "the speech is a fondue pot and everyone has a fork. And I mean everyone."

Some of her toughest moments came from the "mice" as she and others called aides to White House chief of staff Donald Regan, who insisted on editing her words.

She makes it clear that she was a misfit among the wealthy young women who got their jobs through family connections. She disdained being asked to write a speech for Nancy Reagan or Maureen Reagan.

Noonan had her pals in the White House, including conservative spokesman Pat Buchanan, of whom she writes: "There's something in good conservatives that makes them happy to sit for an hour with a janitor and talk about life and the world in a way that one suspects a Ralph Nader (consumer activist) or Ralph Neas (civil rights leader) never could."

She somehow missed the fact that she was serving in an administration where ketchup was called a vegetable, where former White House counsellor Edwin Meese said people go to soup lines because they don't want to pay for their lunch, and where two Education Department officials questioned giving aid to handicapped children because they were holding back "normal" children.

She also manages to smooth over or ignore some of the crueler aspects of the Reagan revolution.

When she was bypassed for the job of chief speechwriter, Noonan left the White House. She was later pulled into George Bush's 1988 presidential campaign to spruce up his speeches.

She wrote his nomination acceptance speech, coining the phrase "kinder and gentler," which her book never was and never will be.

PASSING ON, by Penelope Lively (Grove Weidenfeld, 210 pp., \$17.95)

"Passing On," Penelope Lively's New York is one of those lovely, quiet English novels that take an event, a moment in a life, and then let us watch it reveal or form character.

In "Passing On" the event is the death of 80-year-old Dorothy, dominating mother of Helen, Edward and Louise.

Helen, 52, and Edward, somewhat younger—spinster and bachelor—are just this side of eccentric, having been unable to break out of the web their tyrannical mother kept them in at the ramshackle, decaying family home of Greystone in a small English village. Louise, the third child, has revelled, broken loose and lives—by today's standards—a fairly normal family life in London, complete with adolescent children going through their punk, loose-ends stage.

As the novel opens, at Dorothy's funeral, we are given a taste of Dorothy in Helen's unspoken prayer: "If she was created in my image, then the system is an imperfect one."

Lively's title carries a kind of double meaning. The story is not only the story of Dorothy's passing on and out of the lives of her children, but also of their passing out of her tyranny as her almost palpable presence recedes from the house and their minds.

Life goes on, lively is saying, or, in this case, life must begin, with its small victories and defeats, and it is these events that provide the dramatic core for this perfectly realised study of character and the human condition.

27, by William Diehl (Villard Books, 557 pp., \$18.95)

Johann Ingersoll is a German star of horror films whose allegiance to Nazi politics makes him as twisted as the deformed monsters he portrays on screen. Francis Scott Keegan is a wealthy US playboy and former bootlegger turned avenger after the woman he loves dies in a German concentration camp.

In 27, the new thriller by William Diehl, they play a deadly game of hide-and-seek.

Ingersoll is known as *Siebenmüdigswang*—German for the number 27, the number of rich US industrialists and financiers he tries to kidnap in an attempt to blackmail the United States into staying out of World War II.

27 opens in Germany in 1932 as Hitler comes to power. He recruits Ingersoll, a master of disguise, and has him trained to live as a sleeper agent in the United States. Keegan, meanwhile, falls in love in Berlin only to lose his girl to the Nazis for her part in an underground freedom movement.

This latest novel by the author of "Sharky's Machine" and "That Horse" is a riveting espionage thriller that includes a vivid portrayal of the lurid decadence of pre-war Germany. Diehl also paints a unique caricature of Hitler's psychotic personality, bringing him to life in a portrait that is truly frightening.

The story boys down a bit in the middle while Keegan is being turned from patriot into playboy, but picks up when he starts hunting for the spy known only as 27.

On track, and on the move

BOSTON, (UPI): To Philip and Winard Harper, playing jazz in their own band is a matter of priorities and musical debts that must be repaid.

Their young quintet, the Harpers Brothers, has caught fire with a sound rooted in the hot bebop of the early 1960s' blue note sessions, a solid sound with which they are forging their own identity to carry pop into the nineties.

At a time when stable, working jazz bands are rare, the Harpers speak with modesty and a confident sense of their musical roots and where they are going.

Winard, 27, is a drummer. Philip, 24, is a fine trumpeter. The brothers were raised in Atlanta and formed their first band, the DC Jazz Quintet, in Washington in 1983. They are based in Jersey City, New Jersey, across the Hudson River from the New York Jazz scene.

The Harpers Brothers' first recording, a 1988 namesake studio album on the verve label, was followed by the release this month of "Remembrance," recorded live at the village Vanguard.

The band includes fiery pianist Stephen Scott, 20, impressive alto sax player Justin Robinson, 21, and bassist Kiyoshi Kitagawa, 31. Their music is solid and swings hard, bubbling with passion, energy and virtuosity.

"The leaders see their biggest mission as challenging the audience to have a good time."

"The key for all of us is to play good music, to entertain people," Winard says. "We grew up going to the Baptist church, and down south, once the choir got popping, it evened a feeling in the congregation that would trigger everybody, and that would make the choir sing harder, and before you know it, everybody was in tears."

"That's what the players before us did. If the audience is a part of it, the musicians are playing even stronger, and all of a sudden you're getting something that really locks up together."

Both brothers have extensive experience as sidemen in other bands. Winard worked, most notably, with singer Betty Carter for three and a half years, Philip with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers.

While some young players regard their own bands as something to do when the phone doesn't ring with work offers, the Harpers have reached a point where their own band is now the priority.

"A long time ago, (bassist) Jamil Nasser told me: 'I'll have a debt to pay to Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Charlie Parker, Billie Holiday, John Coltrane, the guys who came before you.' It is very true," Winard says.

"They laid down so much for us. We owe them something, and part of paying that debt is keeping this music happening, or playing their compositions as a tribute to them. The only way for us to do that is to have our own band."

"It is a first priority," Philip adds. "It is something we want to do, we have to do, so we will. I turn down a lot of gigs because the band comes first."

When their schedules permits, or the challenge is irresistible, the brothers take jobs with other artists, as Philip explains, "because we're still trying to learn to play, and need to play in as many different situations as possible."

Many of the other high profile young players on the jazz scene today, like Wynton and Branford Marsalis, Terence Blanchard and Donald Harrison, were inspired by the Miles Davis and John Coltrane side of the 1950s and '60s mainstream. The Harpers were more attuned to the trumpet-drum band collaborations of Clifford Brown and Max Roach. Lee Morgan and Billy Higgins, and the intensity of the cannonball Adderley bands.

"We have a sound that is our own, even though you can hear all of our influences," Philip says. "You can't compare us to any other band that is out there right now."

"We play the music we love, and at the same time, since we are young, we are going to grow. The thing we don't want to do is say: 'OK, we're going to come up with a new music,' because there is really nothing new under the sun, even bird (Charlie Parker) said that."

What the Harpers need is time to mature and find their own identity, to develop without the critical kind of pressure that often dogs young talent.

Winard sees the music as an anchor in a mixed-up world.

It's a cop ... and quite a drag

Eddie woos them, wins them and loves to lose them

IT was enough to make a Beverly Hills cop suspicious—a man in a Rolls Royce engaged in intimate kerbside conversation with a Hollywood transvestite.

But when they checked out the situation, the police officers were amazed to find that the man at the wheel was none other than the celebrated millionaire comedian and ladies' man, Eddie Murphy.

The man in drag—being "chatted up" by the famous movie star on Hollywood Boulevard—was merely part of Murphy's extensive research for his next film.

The comic explained that to the police that he had nothing but a professional interest in the transvestite and, in view of his reputation as a superstar, they believed him.

So it looks as though macho Eddie is soon to appear on the screen in lipstick and mascara. If so, it could mark quite a turnabout for the man who always seems to enjoy his womanising image.

In fact, Murphy's romantic encounters have made him a Tinseltown legend in a few short years. He has been linked with beauties from statuesque Brigitte Nielsen to boxing champ Mike Tyson's ex-wife, Robin Givens.

But he recently vowed never to marry, afraid that a wife might separate him from his vast fortune.

"Although I love women, I'm not a trusting person when it comes to them," Eddie admits. "I represent a target to many women—and besides, I know I can have children without getting married."

He proved the fact by becoming a father for the first time in July last year, when air hostess Paulette McNeely, 23, presented him with a son, Edward Regan Murphy Jr.

Murphy Jr. was thrilled and celebrated the event by setting up a \$1.14 million trust fund for the new arrival. Meanwhile, grey-eyed model Nicole Mitchell, 21, gave birth to Eddie's second baby, a daughter, in November '89.

Outraged If Eddie is not giving away money to make his children instant millionaires, he is being sued for it by outraged starlets. Actress Michael Michele is taking legal action against him because she claims he sacked her from his latest film *Harlem Nights*—his first as a director—because she refused to join him on the "casting couch."

Khan once said: "Man's highest joy is in victory—to conquer one's enemies, to pursue them, to deprive them of their possessions, to make their beloved weep, to ride on their horses and to embrace their wives and daughters."

But modern Mongolians, currently rewriting the history of their nation's founder, say characterisation of Genghis as a demonic butcher are prejudiced and inexact.

"Despite the fact that he ruined some historical monuments, he always respected culture," said Professor S. Natsagdorj, director of the Institute of History at Mongolia's Academy of Sciences.

"He was clever and compared to other Mongols, he was much bigger (in stature)," added Natsagdorj, who has just finished a biography of the "Great Khan" yet to be published.

"If somebody helped him, he never forgot it."

ULANBATON, (Reuters): Genghis Khan, who 800 years ago led his marauding Mongol hordes on a mission of slaughter halfway around the world, is making a big comeback in his native land.

People in Mongolia's capital, Ulan Bator, now sport Genghis badges on their lapels, while department stores sell Genghis calendars, and Genghis tablecloths.

"Genghis Khan vodka"—66 per cent alcohol—will soon help Mongolians fight their winter chill.

"Genghis was like Napoleon. Napoleon killed many people but the French still love him," said a barman at a Ulan Bator hotel.

"Napoleon had a brandy named after him," he added. "Mongolia will make Genghis Khan vodka this year. It will be very strong."

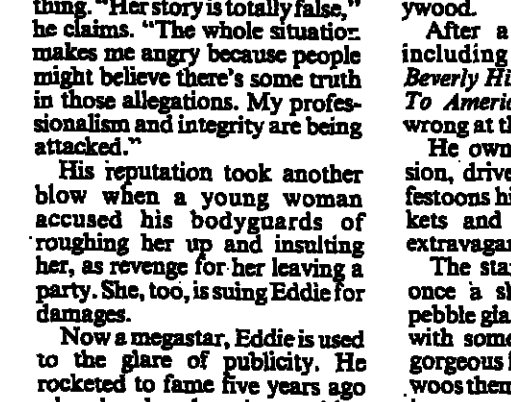
According to Western historians, Genghis



Ladies man Eddie as the gun-totin' Beverly Hills cop Axel Foley.



Brigitte Nielsen had succumbed to Eddie's charm.



Hot on the trail of success

when I tell jokes, so I guess I'm the laughing woman's Richard Gere.

"Girls think I'm handsome because I act handsome and it's a lot easier to talk to them now I'm famous."

Every now and then he gets the urge to settle down. "I go wife-hunting and I'm fussy. I need a woman with tiny feet. Do you know how ugly big feet are?"

He was engaged to sweet, tiny-footed student doctor Lisa Figueroa when he found his initial success but their relationship failed to survive the pressures of fame.

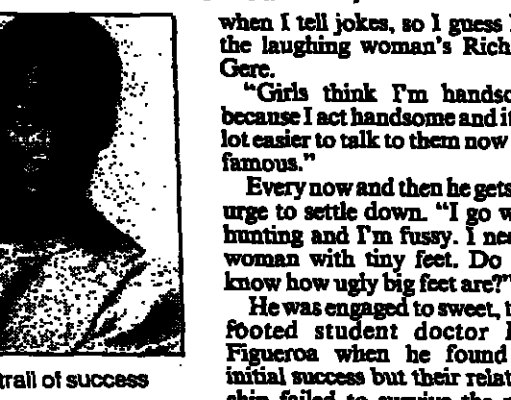
Beautiful 20-year-old Washington University student Musanna Overi is another who nearly made it to the altar with fast Eddie. She has kept a diamond ring and Rolex watch from the romance but lost her chance to be Mrs Murphy. She was put off by reports of her romps in hotel rooms with other girls.

Stunning model Beverly Johnson got a proposal and ring back in 1985. She said: "I'm sure Eddie means it when he says he loves you. Trouble is, you never know who else he's saying it to at the same time."

Gina Scuto, also a model, was made the same promise two years later but called off the engagement after she heard that Eddie's bodyguards were sent out to find him fresh young talent at Los Angeles nightclubs.



Eddie Murphy with his "Trading Places" co-star Dan Aykroyd.



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Despite his headline-grabbing exploits, Eddie insists that underneath his bravado he is still insecure and "as screwed up as anyone else."

He confessed: "Although by not taking drugs or alcohol I am in control of my life—and although I have a lavish amount of money, cars and houses—I am still a manic depressive."

"My life goes up and down but I have always managed to hide my problems behind an extrovert facade."

"I often find myself worrying whether I'm good looking or not, if I'm talented, if I can sing. I wonder if I'm really funny or if it's all a fluke."

Eddie's rise to the giddy heights of success has not been as meteoric as it may seem. He was skipping school to appear in nightclubs with a song-and-comedy routine while he was still in his teens.

By the time he graduated from high school at 18, he was a veteran of the club circuit and had honed to perfection the fast, hilarious, bawdy style that was to make him famous.

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A "Genghis Khan Hotel" is under construction in downtown Ulan Bator and the Japanese communications giant Yomiuri is funding an effort to search for Genghis' burial place.

Shooting will begin this year of Mongolia's first Genghis Khan film, said Natsagdorj. Genghis has also been an inspiration for pro-democracy demonstrations which took place in Ulan Bator in December last year and last month.

"Mongolian brothers and sisters to your horses," exhorted one banner at a rally, harking back to a battle cry during the country's golden age.

For, as Genghis once warned: If a Mongol leaves his horse, he is no longer a Mongol.

Genghis Khan makes a comeback ... on badges, calendars

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"If somebody helped him, he never forgot it."

He respected clever men and he also respected those who had scientific knowledge.

Until about two years ago, when Mongolia's government still took orders from Moscow on many issues, the memory of Genghis Khan was strictly suppressed for fear of sparking a nationalist upsurge that could turn anti-Soviet.

But under Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of glasnost or openness, Moscow has recently handed back the reins to the Ulan Bator government, and the man who created what was then the world's biggest empire has ceased to be a non-person.

The ruling communist government has also begun to rehabilitate Mongolia's most famous son, perhaps aware of the pull Genghis exerts on tourists and their precious dollars.

The government has upgraded him from

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SNIPPETS

DSWD: the poor and women

THE Department of Social Welfare and Development helped 6.27 million poor persons, including 999,000 needy family heads, 2.15 million children and youth, 370,000 women, 190,000 disabled and elderly persons and 2.57 million victims of natural and man-made disasters.

DSWD secretary Mita Pardo de Tavera said that among the services the DSWD rendered were the uplifting of the welfare of street children, assistance to disaster victims, disaster preparedness programmes, livelihood projects, opening of Tindahan Bigay Buhar, expanded services to disadvantaged women, 11,000 core shelter units for typhoon victims and co-ordination with non-governmental agencies involved in welfare services.

During crisis the DSWD also served ready-to-eat food to victims, helped build core shelters that could withstand strong winds and decentralised the release of disaster emergency funds to regional, provincial and city or municipality units.

The DSWD also established regional Lingap Centres that provide temporary shelter, food, and other basic social services for street children pending their return to their respective families.

The DSWD has five day-care centres in Metro Manila — Anak-bayan Dar Centre in Quirino Ave., J. P. Laurel Centre in Sta. Mesa, Manila; another in Manila, and in Tanibo, Parangue and Pasay City.

During the December coup attempt, the DSWD provided evacuees with food and temporary shelters. Thirty-six evacuation centres were put up in Metro Manila which temporarily housed 3,826 families who were given food worth P660,782. In Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue, and Cavite cities, the DSWD extended assistance to 2,387 families.

Some 301,002 individuals were given practical skills training, and they are now self-employed, Pardo de Tavera said.

Discount privileges were also given to poor families who buy from the Tindahan Bigay Buhar whose operators were granted interest-free capital loans.

The DSWD gave 852,119 disadvantaged women self-enhancement opportunities, through social upliftment, skills development, maternal and child care, counselling and substitute home care.

The DSWD established 325 women's centres in different places in the country where women attended welfare programme sessions.

(Continued from last week)

They stayed a year during which time Ninoy Aquino was killed. "When that happened, we thought, well maybe it's time for us to go."

They packed their bags and left for England. They arrived in November. Says Olivia, "I hated the weather. If it wasn't cold, it was raining."

The underground rail system was another challenge. "I got lost twice. You'll never catch me being late for work except when I'm lost! I just couldn't find my way; it's so complicated."

She was also faced with the prospect of her mother-in-law. "In the beginning I felt a little bit unsure. I guess it was the same with Keith and my family. What are they thinking about? What is she going to say about me? She asked me all sorts of questions. I don't think she had a clue about the Philippines. What do people do for a living? What sort of houses do they have there? But eventually we got to know each other better."

For three-and-a-half years they lived in the UK and Olivia overcame her initial resistance to the British. "It's very surprising actually. People there are so different from the people who have left the country. The people in England are very genuine people, not like some of those I met in the Middle East or some who are here. They think that once they've left their country they are better than the other nationalities — Filipino, Asian, European or American. That's the impression I get. But in their country they are so different. Streetworkers, they're British, drivers, what have you, and they're more natural and they treat you better."

Olivia actually enjoyed her stay. She worked, made friends and "began to feel like one of them. I guess in the beginning it was just the different culture. I felt more like a foreigner in Hong Kong where we lived next."

Keith had landed himself a job managing the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club. After seven months, when Olivia was finally settling down to her life in Deepwater Bay, "Keith says pack up, we're going to Manila. Considering what you'd hear about Manila," says Olivia, "it wasn't an inviting (prospect) for a family. But it was his career, so we did."

Keith had been offered the position he now holds, that of food and beverage manager at the Mandarin Oriental Manila.

Two months after they arrived, the Hardies were on their way to the hotel in a taxi at about midnight, from the Boulevard area. At the boundary of Makati, along Buendia, they were stopped at a police checkpoint.

Olivia relates: "The policeman stopped the taxi and asked us where we were going, probably thinking us of tourists. Well I said, the Mandarin and that must have made him think — foreigner and Filipina in a taxi on the way to a hotel. He asked me my relation to 'that man'. I said 'that man' is my husband. He asked for identification and of course I didn't have anything with me. I was so upset I suddenly said: 'I am a British citizen.' It was the first time I ever said that. I wouldn't

normally say I am British. I always say I am Filipino. It was only then, I don't know why. So he just said, OK next time bring your ID. But I was so upset. They see you together, they automatically presume you're..."

Keith adds: "Oh yes, if a Filipina and a foreigner are walking around, say shopping, people will always think you know... In the beginning it was very upsetting. But the whole thing changes when you have a child."

Not-so-little Henry, made in England and born in Abu Dhabi, 8lbs 3oz. At the age of three he has lived in Abu Dhabi, London, Hong Kong and Manila. His parents say: "Oh, he'll be mixed up. There will be questions."

Henry, like his father and mother, is a British subject. He speaks English and some Tagalog. "I'm not teaching him," his mother says. "He learns it, probably in school. He can sing *Bahay Kubo*. He watches TV, he says 'I want to watch *Zai Bulag*'."

Keith understands a great deal of Tagalog, though he speaks "konting" having worked with Filipinos in the Middle East since 1980. For Henry, Keith feels "it is not necessary to learn Tagalog, but it will be good if he does."

Henry will probably be going to an English boarding school when he is a little older. Says Keith: "Private education in England is very good and for the places we go or where we would like to go, British education is preferable. He is a British passport holder and it would make more sense that he be educated in the British system."

He has also been christened in the Church of England.

Does this mean that the family is weighted towards the British half? "We are Europe-based. That's where our house is and Henry carries a British passport. But by all means we won't close the door... As he grows, it'll come naturally. He'll learn all those things (Filipino traditions). It would be unfair if he has no idea of what being Filipino means."

Keith's contract with the hotel is soon coming to an end. Where to next? He's not saying yet, still weighing the options.

Inez Julianita Umali and Poul Berthelsen

Growing up Eurasian

INEZ Julianita Umali, a young Filipina had passage to New York on board a Danish cargo vessel. Poul Berthelsen, blonde with ice-blue eyes was part of the crew. They fell in love and eventually married.

Of the 22 cousins who grew up together in our Mandaluyong compound, I was the third youngest. They tell me that when we first arrived from Denmark all I spoke were a few Danish words as I hid behind my mom's skirts. I'm not certain why we moved to Manila from Copenhagen but I think it was because the nature of my father's work meant he was away at sea for months at a stretch, and in spite of having been well accepted by her Danish in-laws, Mom must have gotten lonely. She had two toddlers on her hands, no family nearby, she didn't

speak the language and in the late 50s there were probably but a handful of Filipinos in Denmark, if at all.

Whatever were the reasons it meant growing up in Manila. We played *paitan-tero, piko, habulan* and *step-no*. In the afternoons we waited for the *magtataho*, in the evenings for the *magbababai*. Our summers were spent swimming in a river in Tiangon, slurping young *mala-uhog* coconuts and eating *hipon sa gata* and *inhaw na hito* with our fingers, off banana leaves.

I don't believe it was a conscious effort on the part of my mom to raise us "Filipino," mere that she had little experience in the Danish language and way of life. We grew up speaking primarily English and Quezon Tagalog. The only Danish we knew was a few nursery rhymes.

In grade school I was oblivious to the fact that I was different from my classmates at St. Sch. I must have been really naive because I had no idea why they would call me *metisang bangus* or why so many would come up to me and pinch my *malangos* nose.

My childhood was filled with stories of Juan Tarnad and Mariang Makiling, *dumendes* and *tikbalang*, but also with fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen. In school whenever a question of Hamlet was raised, my classmates would turn and look at me, as if being Danish, I would know the answer. Whenever Dad was home for Christmas we would go to Sta. Mesa and buy a real pine tree which he would decorate with real candles, the way they do in Denmark.

It was in high school when it first dawned on me that I was foreign, and all because my teacher in Filipino always gave me borderline grades, which I didn't understand since I got honour marks in my other subjects. Then someone told me that all *metis* under her got bad grades. *Me, metis?*

It was also at this time that I started going to parties and began to notice that some boys treated you differently because you were *metis*. Mom made us conscious of the way we dressed. No high-heeled steps-in, no spaghetti straps, not tight waists, and only muted make-up. She'd remind us that being *metis*, if we dressed in a certain way people might think we were "cheap."

In between all these, Dad had retired, joined us in Manila, a baby brother was added to the family, and then Dad had flown to Denmark to renew old ties. The summer after my high school graduation we visited Denmark to test the waters. I was 16, visiting the country I had left when I was barely two. I loved the freedom of taking buses and trains by myself, clean hot dog stands at practically every other corner, and the pungent smell of crushed geranium leaves. When Mom and Dad asked if we wanted to move to Denmark, there were no second thoughts.

In Manila we prepared to close a chapter of our lives. The last year we spent we made do without household help to enable us to learn the chores we would need to do in Copenhagen.

Emil, then eight, was placed in a Danish school. All his friends were now Danes and so he was immediately immer-



They met on a slow boat to Denmark: Poul and Nita Umali-Berthelsen with children Janice (left) and the author in the early 60s.

sed in our new way of life.

Janice, the eldest, married and found a good job and got into the swing of things. It was Mom, I guess who had to do the greatest adjusting. From being a career woman all her life, she shifted to fulltime homemaker. Although most Danes speak fairly good English, she had to learn the language to understand the new laws we were faced with — taxes, schooling, rents. She had to accept with the influx of foreign workers, was slowly developing a hostility to anyone with dark hair. And most of all, she had to adjust to the cold of Denmark, where Danes went to the beach on a nice summer day about as warm as an early January morning in Baguio.

After my own period of adjustment, learning our language and culture, I returned to Manila. This was the beginning of my ping-pong period, shuttling home to Copenhagen and then home to Manila.

When I enrolled at Ateneo things took on an even greater clarity. First I was required to obtain a study permit from the then Bureau of Education. What? Well, you're a foreigner I was informed.

At St. Sch. everyone knew I spoke Filipino; at Ateneo no one assumed it. These were the years immediately following the declaration of martial law when awareness of Philippine culture was blossoming. The college was offering exciting new courses on Philippine studies, students were enthusiastic about taking philosophy courses in Filipino, and I fell in love with Basil Valdez when, at Corwin Hall, he first sang "Ngayon at Kailanman." These were the years we rediscovered the Philippines, visiting Legaspi City and Sagada.

There was of course the question of identity. And this for me, posed the biggest problem of all.

I had learned the Danish way of play-

ing by the rules — you followed traffic signs, you didn't drop by uninvited, you came on time, you never cooked into excess, you waited your turn. I felt proud of things Danish — chocolates, bacon, and salami, Carlsberg beer, furniture, Bang and Olufsen. I had begun to learn the humour and the temperament of my father's country, and I found out that in more ways than I realised, I was Danish.

But also love the *bikid* in the still of the night, listening to the sounds of *toto*. I would get a lump in my throat when I would sing *Bayang Magiliw*. I would get these pangs of guilt when I see beggar kids, feeling somehow responsible. I enjoyed *Flores de Mayo*, *Simbang Gabi* and *Todos los Santos*. I grew up with *Pakikipagkapa-tao*, utang na loob and *pakikisap*. Technically I wasn't Filipino, but in many ways I was.

As I travelled back and forth I would often catch myself wondering, where did I really belong? Home was Denmark, where my family was, the country I was a citizen of, the city of Copenhagen. I had grown to love. Whenever the plane would touch down at Copenhagen airport I'd have to fight back the tears of homecoming, at seeing the familiar coastline and the tall evergreens.

But the Philippines was also where I had a lot of old friends, where there were coconut trees of Tiangon were an immemorial, where if I could sit by my grandmother's rocking chair as she watched *Vima Santos*, I would know that everything was all right in the world. And as the plane would slowly begin its descent over the checkerboard greenness of Laguna and I'd catch sight of the Iglesia ni Cristo church stark against the blueness of the bay, I would know that here too was home.

As children of a Danish father and a Filipina mother we have been afforded a smorgasbord of values and traditions that we could choose from and mix and match.

Army captain found dead

CEBU CITY — An army captain was found dead inside a pension house along V. Gullas and Legaspi streets, police said.

Lieut. Wilfredo Labra, chief of the Cebu City police homicide section, identified the dead soldier as Capt. Elmer Culamag, assigned at the Philippine Army's 403rd Brigade in Patag, Cagayan de Oro City.

Police could not immediately determine the cause of his death, Labra said.

Initial investigations said Culamag registered at the Hope Pension House under an assumed name of Ela Corrales of Santander, Cebu.

Edward Lato, a roomboy of the Hope Pension House told police he saw the Army captain came back the following day apparently under the influence of liquor.

Later, Lato together with another roomboy, Victor Cabras, went to Culamag's room to collect the rent for his second day of stay but despite their repeated calls, the man inside remained silent.

Hotel authorities reported the matter to the police who found Culamag soaked in his own urine and his legs slightly moving. He was rushed to the Cebu City Medical Centre, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

3 rob, slay suspects nabbed

THREE suspects in the rob-slay of a cabbie were arrested in Quezon City recently.

Antonio Nueta, 26, driver, of 438 Quirino Highway; Rodel Pasual, 23, of 164 Joyville subdivision, and his younger brother Ariel, all in Novaliches were surprised by policemen led by Lt. Fluto Casayuran in the Pascual residence.

The three admitted the crime and said they were high on drugs when they held-up and killed Abaldo Tamayo along Congressional Ave., Quezon City, on the night of Dec. 2.

After taking a cough syrup, Nueta and the Pascuals said they boarded Tamayo's cab near Congressional Avenue. When they reached Proj. 8, Nueta said the Pascual brothers announced the heist and took Tamayo's earnings totalling P25.

Tamayo tried to fight back, prompting him to shoot Tamayo in the head while the Pascuals stabbed him in the chest with fan knives.

After the killing, the suspects said they dumped Tamayo's body at the corner of Sagittarius and Times Streets and fled.

Tamayo's cab was recovered 100 metres away from his body.

Chicken prices will increase

CHICKEN prices will rise by as much as 20 per cent this month due to the sudden increase in the price of broiler chicks and feeds and shortage of corn.

This was the contention of Batanes poultry raisers headed by Lucito Chavez when they informed President Aquino about the decision of big chicken companies like Magnolia, Purefoods, Robina and RFM Corp. to raise the price of broiler chicks from P10 to P15.

Chavez said that before the Christmas holidays, companies flooded the market with their chicken stocks, causing an oversupply and decreased prices.

This resulted in near bankruptcy for the poultry raisers, who were then forced to sell their stocks prematurely to avoid further losses due to increased feed prices.

When the poultry raisers tried to replenish their stocks, they found that the prices of broiler chicks had been raised by 50 per cent.

To break even, the poultry raisers will have to sell their chicken P55 to P60 per kilo, Chavez said.

"Ang mga dambuhala ng kompanya lamang ang makikinatang dahil sa sila ang komokontrol sa negosyong pagmamalak at halos naididiktita nila ang mga presyo upang sila ay kumita nang malaki," Chavez added.

President Aquino will not help them, the poultry raisers said, they and other related firms will be forced to close shop.

4 NPA rebels slain in Negros encounters

FOUR New People's Army (NPA) rebels were killed in two separate encounters with Army troops and militiamen in Sipalay, Negros Occidental, the Negros Island Command (Nicom) headquarters in Bacolod City reported.

Col Eduardo Fernandez, commanding officer of Task Force Negros Oriental identified one of the rebel casualties as Diosdado Pega alias "Ka Degong," member of a 30-man armed terrorist group which engaged the troops in a ten-minute firefight.

The encounter took place at 6:30 pm between sites La Gundi and Samac in Barangay Camindagan in Sipalay.

Recovered from the slain terrorists were a .30 m-l Garand rifle, ten rounds of live ammunition, a combat pack, notebook, medicine kit and subversive documents.

Earlier, the task force commander said a team of Cagmen headed by Cpl Rodolfo Aromin of the 7th Infantry Battalion, encountered about 35 armed rebels, some of whom were harvesting palay in Sitio Onas, Mamiindagan, Sipalay.

The firefight which lasted for 15 minutes, resulted to the killing of three NPA rebels. No casualty was reported on the government side in the two encounters.

The slain rebels, however, were not identified in the military report relayed to Brig. Gen. Reynaldo Jarque, Nicom chief and concurrently commander of the Third Infantry Division covering the island of Negros and Panay.

Policeman kills CIS agent

A CIVILIAN agent of the Constabulary Criminal Investigation Service (PC-CIS) was shot dead by a traffic policeman shortly after he allegedly mauled a traffic aide in Quezon City.

Rommel Lague, 24, of 884 Riverside St., Barangay Commonwealth, Quezon City died instantly from a gunshot wound in the chest, police said.

A bystander identified as Solomon Montero was reportedly hit in the stomach by a stray bullet. He was rushed to St. Luke's Hospital for treatment.

Police disclosed that Lague and Ernesto Nicolas, 41, of 132 Burgos St. No Nino Marikina, were drinking in a beerhouse along 20th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City.

Witnesses told investigators that Lague and Nicolas apparently drunk, approached and without provocation mauled traffic aide Marlon Cruz, 26, of barangay Payatas, Quezon City.

Traffic policeman Pat Mauro Melecio, 48, happened to pass by and saw the incident. He pacified Nicolas and Lague but the agent shot him instead with a .38 revolver thrice in the right thigh.

Melecio said he drew his gun and returned fire hitting Lague in the chest.

Witnesses said Nicolas tried to retrieve Lague's gun but was prevented by Cruz.



A musical director at 18

Michael Laygo

HOW can a guy, who just turned 18, who's barely two years old in showbiz, and without any record or concert to speak of, be a much-sought-after talent in musical shows and a TV musical director rolled into one? Well, it can be if the guy happens to be Michael Laygo.

For Michael has proved he's just no ordinary talent. He can sing, he can act, and try his skill at other related fields, like doing the job of a musical director for his regular show, *StarBrighters* (hosted by Boy De Guia on PTV-4), and being voice coach to a lot of aspiring young singers. These, Michael presently does with much vigor.

Yet Michael admits it is singing which is closest to his heart. A fondness which automatically grew as Michael developed his fine ear for music.

"It was actually my mother (Maribel Laygo) who first instilled in me the interest to sing," says Michael. "She encouraged me to play the piano which I learned while very young. Then I had a brief formal training with the Repertory Philippines when I auditioned for the chorus part in the plays *Fiddler On The Roof* and *Annie*. It was a short stint though, I didn't even get to see myself joining the plays' regular runs."

But for his nightly outings in music lounges early in his teens, Michael practically has had no formal training. "I was 15 when I sang at Eduardo's," recalls Michael. "I also sang somewhere in Escolta, where I got paid P50 a night. Often I encountered drunk customers, especially in the smaller music lounges. Even then I believed that I should start there to get used to audiences."

It was Boy De Guia who was instrumental in bringing Michael to public attention through TV. About a year ago, Michael joined that group of youngsters in Boy's Cinema Scoop, on Channel 2.

When the show was cancelled, the same group resurfaced in the youth-oriented musical variety show, *StarBrighters* on Channel 4.

For Michael, his inclusion in these shows opened new doors towards brighter career prospects. Since then he's had guestings in other TV shows, mostly musicals, and regular appearances in *Gulong ng Palad* and *Aawitan Kita*. What's more, Michael has been tapped for the job of musical director for *StarBrighters*.

A recording career isn't farfetched. For Michael's now a contract artist of Alpha Recording Co. In fact, Michael's on his way to completing his first LP under Alpha, which was scheduled for release after the young singer's launching show. *Ito Na, Mula Sa Puso*... Michael Laygo at Birdland last October.

As the *StarBrighter's* musical director, Michael already had his mind set for the job the moment it was offered to him.

Is Michael aware of any professional jealousy among his peers, mainly due to his position as the show's musical director? He is, Michael admits.

"True, there are those who feel intimidated and jealous," explains Boy De Guia. "I tell him (Michael), that's the test of leadership. You will lose a lot of friends. But this is not a popularity contest. Don't expect people to relate and look up to you. Some of them will resent the fact that you have surpassed them. Even if they recognize you as a major talent, the best singer among them, you are co-equals."

Michael is admonished not to forget that. Besides, as musical director, he has a different personality. He has to assert himself, young as he is, and it isn't easy. But that's how it is, it's good training as well.

As Michael Laygo heads for new heights in his singing career, such training will not go to waste, but rather be to his advantage.

Tiger stars in new TV show

WHAT does Roy Alvarez "bluesky" about when he puts his feet up? Not that the man has much time on his hands. These days he's likely to be stationed at one of Channel 13's studios or on location, in between stage appearances and other commitments, directing and hosting a new television series in the tradition of the *Twilight Zone*. The show, was aptly entitled *Katakataka*.

"*Katakataka* deals with true stories," says Alvarez, "unlike *Twilight*, whose stories delve only on possibilities, especially into psychic phenomena, mysticism and esoteric things. This should be an exciting development. *Katakataka* is based on a person's real experience. Through the series, we hope to shed light on the mystery that is ESP so that people will appreciate the phenomenon."

He adds, "we try to get as close as possible to the experience, filming it where it happened, if possible. There will be times when experts on a certain subject will be brought in."

This devotion to portraying the truth earned for cast and crew an eerie experience during the first taping session. The pilot episode entitled *Mind Over Matter*, recounts how the psychic/telekinetic Raymar Velasco comes to terms with his gift as a child. There is one part which narrates how his father would scold him for going about without slippers. Afraid of the scolding that would surely come after he is caught without a pair, the boy wills his slippers to come to him, and they do.

"Sabi ko kay Raymar, 'Let's not use effects. If we can have the real thing, then that would be great.' As soon as Chuckie Dreyfuss (who plays the young Raymar) took off the shoes, *gumalawagaw na nang shoes* and it went to him, *malayo rin ang inilakad noon*."

"Another time I changed the

blocking it such a way na *mapalabas ko yung spirit guide ni Raymar*. The camera was supposed to pan upwards to the tower to indicate that the guide was there. Miguel Faustmann plays the role of the spirit guide. The air was at first, but when the camera started to pan upwards, *kumainag na nang malakas lalo*. Everybody had goosebumps from that."

All this did not bother Alvarez much. "I have psychic experiences of my own but I don't really want to go into details since I have to be objective for the discussions (after the dramatization of the story, a talk with the subject source ensues)."

"When you learn, you realise there is so much more you don't know. So you study life, study people and you are able to interpret life itself. That's how media, in all forms, work. If I can affect one person to understand some of life's mysteries, I'm happy. If I can affect more than one, then I'm definitely doing what I started out to do."

Learning, as a sage once observed, is acquired by reading books; but the much more necessary learning, the knowledge of the world, is only acquired by reading men and studying all the various editions of them. Roy Alvarez is one edition worth studying.



Alvarez: psychic experiences

Dagupan ferry service planned

DAGUPAN CITY: Establishment of a ferry system in Dagupan came closer to reality when the city government asked for P2.5 million assistance from the budget allocation for local government units (Balau), under the Department of Local Government (DLG), to finance the project.

Vice Mayor Alipio Fernandez Jr said the request is contained in a resolution approved by the city council and addressed to Local Government Secretary Luis Santos.

Councilors Alejandro Decano and Alfredo D. Sta. Maria Sr. said the amount will be used for the purchase of one multi-purpose boat which will initially carry out the function of a ferry that will operate in the waters of Dagupan.

The two aldermen said the multi-purpose boat will be of much use in the city in times of emergency, particularly in reaching out to several island barangays.

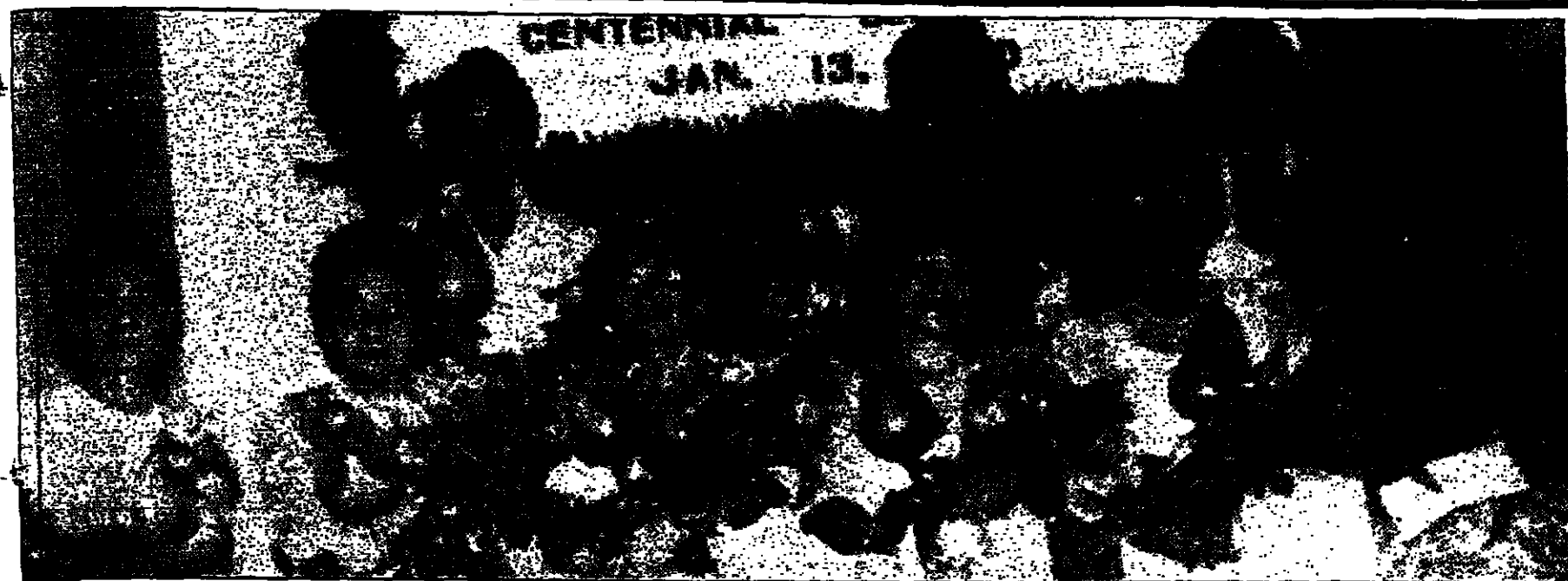
It could also be used by the constabulary and the police in apprehending dynamic fishermen, and patrolling the Lingayen Gulf.

Vice Mayor Fernandez said that if the DLG grants the city's request, the ferry system will be immediately put into operation using the Pantar River as its base.

The Pantar River has several tributaries that lead to various parts of Pangasinan.

The Philippine Embassy in Kuwait will be transferring to its new location in Jabriya, House No. 363, Area 10, Police Station Street, effective from March 1, 1990. The telephone numbers in the new building are: 5329315, 5329316, 5329317, 5329318 and 5329319.

Janice Lito



Top mothers of Negros

The Ten Outstanding Mothers of Negros Occidental were awarded recently at the Old Capitol Building in Bacolod City by the Alex Negros Ladies Circle on the

occasion of the Centennial Celebration of the province. The awardees were: Dolores Roullo from Old Escalante, Remedios Mondragon of Mursia, Regina Abano and

Saturnina Jaunce of La Carlota, Trinidad vda. de Gonzales of Pontevedra, Flor Navezaga of Hinigaran, Angelina Jamiana, Asuncion Gacho, Remedios

Orola and Concepcion vda. de Sarrosa of Bacolod. They each received a trophy, cash award and gift certificate.

The Minamata declaration

TO low-income consumers all over the world, to the oppressed and exploited, to those living in misery and deprivation, to all those who are the victims of greed and mad race for more and more control and monopolistic power, the Minamata Declaration of August 24, 1989 should open the eyes not only of governments but also of non-governmental organizations. Listen and ponder on these realities which haunt us every day, succinctly summarized by various participants in the People's Plan for the 21st century which was a month-long activity in various parts of Japan.

"The slogan at the beginning of the 20th century was progress. The cry at the end of the 20th century is survival. The call for the next century is hope. Impelled by that hope for the future and with a keen sense of urgency, we began our concluding gathering of the People's Plan for the 21st century in Minamata, a place which symbolizes to all of us development at its most murderous. As it did to the people of the South, Chernobyl, a giant organization with advanced science, technology and production techniques condemned the people of Minamata to fear, sickness, and death, and their beautiful bay to irreparable damage. These three disasters — Minamata, Bhopal and Chernobyl — can be taken as benchmarks of our time. At Minamata, the industry of a capitalist country poisoned its own citizens. At Bhopal, a US multinational corporation poisoned people of the South. At Chernobyl, a socialist government spilled radiation out over its land and people, and beyond its borders to the whole world. There is no need here to repeat the long and mounting list of eco-catastrophes. These three tell the story. There is no place to hide.

"But these are not the only symbols of disaster that 'progress' has been. For the indigenous people, disaster came with confiscation and exploitation of their lands and resources, and destruction and displacement of their way of life. For women, development has meant marginalization and subordination by male religions, male science and knowledge, and male maldevelopment. The billion dollar pornography and sex industry has reduced them to mere commodities. At the same time, they continue to be subordinated within their own homes. For the poor of the Third World, development has meant less and less control over their own resources and lives. Their struggle to survive has become more difficult, their

existence has become precarious. There has indeed been progress and development, but only for the few. The rest are paying for this development by sacrificing their lives, cultures, values. Development and progress have been disastrous because they are based on an obsession with materialistic acquisition. Profit and power have emerged at the expense of this development. The assumption behind development has been that man is supreme, that he can use and misuse nature as he wishes. Development has been a project to conquer nature, rather than to live in harmony with it.

"Development has meant increasing centralization of power. The more the word 'democracy' has been used, the less has been its practice. For indigenous people and for minorities, democracy has meant the tyranny of the majority. For the poor in the Third World, democracy has meant the rule of the powerful, a very small elite. Both development and democracy have become dirty words for the oppressed because, in reality, they have come to mean impoverishment and disempowerment. Development has also meant destruction of the rich values of diversity. It has destroyed people's creativity and capacities. At the same time, democracy can no longer be achieved within the limits of the state. Today, the lives of millions of people are being controlled, shattered, deformed and destroyed by decisions made outside their communities, even outside their countries. These decisions are made by foreign government, by transnational corporations, by agencies such as the IMF, the World Bank and the big power summits.

"We have no illusions about the present condition of the peoples of Asia-Pacific region. The ruling powers maintain themselves by dividing the people and encouraging hostility among them. The rulers not only seek to rule us, but also to manage our mutual relations, depriving us of our right to do this for ourselves. This we must reject and overcome. Transborder political action, support and solidarity campaigns across borders, will gradually develop a new 'people' that transcends existing divisions, especially between people living in the North and South. This is not utopian. The actions we describe are actually going on all over the Asia-Pacific region, and all over the world. What we assert is that these transborder actions are not merely the proper response of the people to desperate situations. Taken together, they amount to the people collectively making their own 21st century."

CCP stage set for Nick Joaquin parody

THE Bulwagang Amado V. Hernandez in the Sentrong Pangkultura ng Pilipinas (CCP) bldg. is probably the most unknown (no offense meant to the great writer it was named after). It is a black-walled chamber corner of Lindy Locsin's architectural achievement, inaccessible to the CCP going public but alive nonetheless during their theatre season of Tanghalang Pilipino, the CCP's resident drama company. Being approximately as large as the CCP Little Theatre stage (now the Tanghalang Aurelio V. Tolentino), Tanghalang Pilipino has used Bulwagang Amado V. Hernandez as the rehearsal space for the company's numerous productions at the Little Theatre. Here, many a director has screamed his head off and many an actor or actress has wept his or her way to artistic maturity. But not during the last few weeks.

Tanghalang Pilipino is bucking up for the last offering of its theatre season: *Larawan ng Pilipino Bilang Arista*, a daring and irrelevant parody sequel of national artist Nick Joaquin's *Portrait of an Artist as Filipino*, which Tanghalang Pilipino also offered as the season's initial presentation.

And the rehearsal hall is kept vibrantly alive by its temporary occupants: the director Paul Dumol, his assistants and a huge cast which includes Armida Siguan-Reyna alternating with Natty Crame-Rogers as *Candida* and Irma Potenciano as *Paula*, Mario O'hara, Ricky Davao, Jackie Lou Blanco, Pio de Castro III, Ginnie Sobrinho, Sherry Lara, Lou Veloso, Gigi Deunas, Carlitos Siguan-Reyna, Bon Vilar, Joel Macaventa, Ony de Leon, Kim Atienza, Ding Navasero, Myk Pamintuan and Shamaine Centenera.

A week before the premiere, everyone seems to be having fun and not freaking out from opening night jitters. The play is, after all, a comedy. Armida Siguan-Reyna is in one corner, waiting for her cue in street (or office) clothes, and chewing what seems to be like nuts she takes from a large bowl on a nearby table. Irma Potenciano is on the set, wearing a comfortable dress and saying her lines as *Paula* to Mario O'hara's *Tony Javier*. Sitting on the side of the hall is a relaxed Jackie Lou Blanco in shorts, while on the opposite hall is bubbly Ricky Davao, dutifully memorizing his lines.

In *Larawan*, three decades have passed and *Candida* and *Paula* have gone back from New York and have just moved into a new house in Forbes Park designed by Lindy Locsin. Park designed by Lindy Locsin. From then on, they get involved in a thickening plot which includes *Bitoy Camacho* and his son *Bitoy*; *Tony Javier* and his true sons by *Paula*; *Tonnet*, who has a pregnant girlfriend (Jackie Lou), and *Larry* (Ricky), who has two naves; *Candida*'s former suitor turned drug-dealer, *Dr. Agustin Morera*; another portrait plus thieves; and a reporter named *Nick Joaquin*.

The director Paul Dumol, sitting behind an enormous desk, interrupts. He stands, moves closer to his actors, instructs them in soft voice, smiles and returns to his desk in an unharmed manner.

Then they start the scene again, with Gigi Deunas as the wacky servant waking up Mario O'hara who has just fainted. She says, "Senyor, gising na po kayo at naku, makaka-limutan ko po ang mga lines ko." Everyone chuckles at the veteran actress' fool. The mood is so relaxed that even Irma Potenciano affords to pout around and slap Mario O'hara's nape as the latter suppresses a laugh when he calls him (as *Paula*) her long lost husband. Armida Siguan-Reyna laughs, wipes the salt off her hand and prepare to enter in character.

It seems that Tanghalang Pilipino's artistic director, Nonon Padilla (also *Larawan*'s playwright) and director Paul Dumol, have taken great pains in choosing a fine ensemble of mature acting talents. (Padilla, who wrote the play's first draft in 1976 and when he revised it in 1987 won third place in the Palanca Literary Contest).

Luck really seems to be on the side of the artistic director for when he invited close friend Linda Locsin to design the set, the architect readily agreed, instantly creating a famous first in Philippine theatre. Even national artist Nick Joaquin has given his imprimatur by agreeing to visit the rehearsals and see the ensemble poke fun at him and his opus. Good 'ole Saint Nick might even her *Bitoy Camacho* saying: "Siya's ang diabolito reporter. At siya's anghel dela guardiya ni Senyora Paula's *Candida*."

The Bulwagang Amado Hernandez has never been more alive than during these past few weeks.



The cast of Tanghalang Pilipino's *Larawan*, with its leads — Armida Siguan-Reyna and Irma Potenciano (front).

From the provinces

SAN FERNANDO, La Union: A group of Philippine Army soldiers held for more than three hours a six-man team of Philippine Constabulary manning a checkpoint at the outskirts of Ilocos Norte in what appeared to be a case of mis-encounter.

Reports reaching the Regional Command Office said that the same army group seriously shot one of the PC troopers who attempted to draw his gun in an apparent move to dislodge the army soldiers.

The name of the wounded Constabulary man was not immediately known although the report said he suffered three gunshot wounds in the right leg and was rushed to the provincial hospital.

Col Romeo Odi, regional chief of staff, said that the incident took place in Badoc, Ilocos Sur.

Odi said the PC troopers led by Maj. Rufino Druja, deputy provincial commander for operations in Ilocos Norte, were manning the checkpoints when they chanced upon the vehicle of the army soldiers.

Druja and his men, Odi said, were held hostage by the soldiers for the 45th Infantry Battalion whom they stopped at a checkpoint in Badoc town while they were aboard a passenger jeep.

The PC men were taken to the Army headquarters and were only released through the intervention of Lt. Col. Patrick Madayag, Ilocos Norte provincial commander.

Madayag, Odi said, talked to Col George Molea, commanding officer of the 503rd Infantry Brigade assigned to Ilocos Norte for the release of the hostage.

Brig. Gen. Miguel Abaya, PC INP regional commander, has ordered a thorough investigation of the incident. Odi said the Army soldiers were riding on a private vehicle when stopped by Druja and his men at the PC checkpoint.

LAOAG CITY: Because of the rampant practice of alleged tardiness and absenteeism among some city employees, a bumpy clock system was instituted in the sangguniang panglungsod (city council) to replace the daily time cards.

Councillor Alma Blanco and some of her colleagues supported the move initiated by Councillor Cua Bee Jr.

Bee said the bumpy clock system can "check late comers, habitual absentees, and 15-30 workers."

He said the some P50,000 he needed to buy their clocks to be installed at the City Hall, engineer's office, and office of the market master.

PASAY CITY: A businessman is facing a complaint of illegal detention filed against him by his househelps who he had earlier accused of robbery.

Capt. Armando Aprid, Pasay City police criminal investigation division (CID) chief, identified the businessman as Benjamin Khe, 25, of 133 Fortuna St, Pasay City.

The complainants were identified as Reynaldo Villanuel, 32, house painter, and his wife Estela, 35; and Alberto Chavez, 22, driver, and his wife Elizabeth.

Villanuel and Chavez told police that they were handcuffed by Khe to the window grills and chair for almost three days after they were collared by Khe in the Divisoria market.

Khe accused the househelps of stealing his .9mm pistol which has been missing since November last year.

CALAPAN, Oriental Mindoro: Thirteen persons were killed and 29 others were injured when a north-bound passenger bus collided with a passenger jeepney in barangay Bayanan, this town.

Seven of the 13 fatalities were identified by the local police force headed by Sgt. Ruben Marasigan.

The seven identified fatalities were Epifanio Ecaro (driver of the ill-fated bus), Modesta matale, Alfredo Fulgencio, Renato Ortaza, Consolacion Ecilia, Cristobal Manuel, and Salvacion Tugan.

Pfc. Romulo Hernandez and Pfc. Roy Alea, police investigators, said that the Golden Rose bus with license plate TFR 544 was overtaking a tricycle when it collided with an oncoming

jeepney with plate TCT 552. All the 13 jeepney passengers, including the driver Ecaro, died on the spot.

The bus driver identified as Diosdado Salmorin was seriously injured.

The injured passengers were taken to various hospitals in Calapan.

MINDANAO: A Mindanao congressman has asked his constituents to remain united in the face of the serious problems confronting the nation.

Rep. Isacio Petaex (1st district, Misamis Oriental) noted the need to focus the people's attention on the problems of insurgency, poverty, unemployment, drug addiction, criminality, child abuse, and other social ills.

He underscored the need to improve the delivery of basic services to the people, particularly those living in remote areas, to show the sincerity of the government in its mission of alleviating their sufferings and improve their well-being.

MANILA: Although diabetics are generally advised to refrain from eating too much sugar, it is possible for them to have soft drinks, ice tea, lemonades and other sweetened foods and beverages. A sweetener has been developed and proven safe for their use.

Aspartame (Equal), a low-calorie, non-nutritive sweetener has been reviewed and found safe by health authorities world-wide, among them the US Food Additives (Jecta) of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

The American Diabetes Association, in particular, stated that, "aspartame is acceptable as a sugar substitute and can be included in a diabetic meal plan."

Proven to be 185 to 200 times sweeter than sugar, aspartame (Equal) can be used in reducing caloric intake by simply substituting it for sugar. It is made by joining two protein compounds, aspartic acid and phenylalanine are naturally present in all protein-containing foods like meats, grains, and dairy products, while methanol naturally occurs in the body and foods like fruits and vegetable juices.

Aspartame, which is popularly known as Equal, has also been proven safe for pregnant and breastfeeding women, as well as for epileptics and those who are on a weight-reducing programme.

BAGUIO CITY: In keeping with its commitment to the development of the cut flower industry, the SGV Foundation Inc., in cooperation with Saint Louis University and Benguet State University, will sponsor a "Symposium on the Production, Marketing, and Financial Opportunities for Cut Flowers" on Feb 23-24 at the Hyatt Terraces in Baguio City.

The symposium is open to cut flower growers, farmers, exporters and prospective investors. It is free of charge.

The Baguio symposium follows two conferences-workshops on the subject of cut flowers in Manila in December, 1988 and August, 1989 which were participated in by industry members and the government.

For more information on the Baguio symposium, interested parties are asked to call May Tanseco or Malou Domingo at 8170301 at the SGV Development Centre or Carina Fajardo at 4426509 at the SGV Baguio branch.

MANILA: The Department of Tourism (DOT) received the Silver Citation for Outstanding Publication from the Public Relations Society of the Philippines during the 25th Anvil Awards Night held recently at the Manila Peninsula Hotel.

Of the 127 entries, the DOT was cited for the publication of the Philippines Book which features the tourism and economic potentials of all the country's provinces with the use of low-cost printing materials.

The Philippines Book showcases the tourist attractions of all the 77 provinces. The Anvil awards committee was impressed by the layout of the book which "gives texture and ambience."

The committee concluded that the book in colours sepia, cyan, and magenta encourages the reader to go beyond the book itself and actually travel to discover the

places in living colour.

The Philippines Book was edited by tourism staff director Raul J. Teehankee with art and layout design prepared by Braintrust.

SURIGAO DEL SUR: The Centro (Surigao del Sur) Association of Metro Manila will hold an organisational meeting and election of officers at the TUCP Auditorium, Quezon Memorial Circle near corner of Maharlika St., Quezon City at 1 pm Sunday, Feb 11, organisers announced.

Mateo "Mating" Elpa Tan, overall chairman, said the member-towns of Centro are Cortes, Tandag, Tago, San Miguel, Bayabas and Cagwait, all in Surigao del Sur.

MANILA: Director Alfredo Lim of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) ordered the detention of four Paranaque policemen who were reported to be involved in the killing of two Taiwanese businessmen last Thursday.

The four were identified as Pfc. Alcala, Patrolmen Edgardo Herrera and Redentor Mariano of the Paranaque police mobile division and Pat. Roberto Barrera of the property section of the Paranaque police station.

The four were turned over yesterday to NBI National Capital Region Director Salvador Ranin by Col. Rogelio Pura, Paranaque police chief.

The four were accused by relatives of George Tan Go, 35, of San Isidro, Paranaque and Shik Shuyang, 33, of killing the two businessmen.

Investigation showed that the four policemen reportedly picked up Tan for alleged illegal possession of firearms after Tan reportedly fired his gun indiscriminately during Christmas celebration outside his disco pub at the Lopez commercial center on Dr. Santos Ave. in Paranaque.

Pat. Barrera, who was living nearby, at first tried to arrest Tan but when he failed, he reportedly called for police reinforcement.

Pfc. Alcala, and Patrolmen Herrera and Mariano of the mobile division arrived later on the scene on board a mobile car.

It was learned that Tan was drunk and tried to assault the lawmen, forcing the policemen to arrest him. Before he was taken to the police station, Tan reportedly was brought to the Paranaque hospital where Tan reportedly telephoned Shuyang, his visitor, to accompany him to the police station from the hospital.

While passing along Timothy St. on Multinational Village on board a mobile car, Go reportedly grabbed the ArmaLite rifle of Pat. Alcala. During the scuffle inside the mobile car, police said Go and Shuyang were hit with ArmaLite bullets.

BAGUIO CITY: Three housemaids of a well-known Baguio City lawyer were killed Wednesday night after they were raped by still unidentified men who also robbed the lawyer's house of cash, appliances, jewelry, and a .38 caliber pistol P100,000.

Police investigators identified the slain women as Amelita Espilla, June Micua and Roberta Banciera, all househelps in the house of lawyer Rer Rimorin at No. 18 Int. Tacay Road, this city.

Initial investigation revealed that the robbers entered the house when all the members of the Rimorin family were out of town.

Pat. Rey Eklid, investigator of the case, theorised that the robbers pretended to be carolers and were invited to come into the house by the three domestic help.

Eklid said there was no sign of forcible entry into the house which was guarded by big Polish dogs.

The crime was discovered only the following day when the children of Rimorin arrived and saw the three dead maids gagged and hog-tied.

Police probes were still trying to establish the identities of the robbers.

BACOLOD CITY: A teenager died at the Bacolod Sanitarium and Hospital from firefighter burns Friday morning, police reported.

Police said Joe Alvin Oga, 18, of Rosario, Hinigaran, succumbed to third degree burns all over his body.

Early report said Oga was making firefighters at his residence when the accident occurred.

Filipino artists' crusade for peace

IT'S almost impossible to gather all the leading artists who performed in this "Kapayapaan" album. But for a project with such a worthy cause, all of them are more than willing to participate no matter how busy they're with their numerous commitments.

For "Kapayapaan," all of them are so enthusiastic to contribute their precious time and talent: Celeste Legaspi, APO Hiking Society, Kulu Ledesma, Gary Valenciano, Jose Marie Chan, Marco Sison, Janet Basco, Sheryl Cruz, Gino Padilla, Samantha Chave, Camille Victoria and the 14-K.

The title track, "Kapayapaan," is composed by Jim Paraula and performed by all the above mentioned artists. Everyone gave an inspired performance simply because they sincerely feel the message of the song and they want to convey it in a most effective manner: to all Filipinos.

Other songs on Side A are "Sasaya ang Pilipinas," performed by the APO Hiking Society and composed by Jim Paraula; the WEA children's choir rendition of "Ikaw, Ako, Tayong Lahat Mga Kapamilya," a Tony Lozano-Boyling Alano original; and "Peace of the Peace" composed by Jim Paraula; as commissioned by the United Nations for an international peace forum last year.

Side Two of the new album features Jesse Sacle's "Ang Bayan kong Pilipinas" as interpreted by Celeste Legaspi. More inspiring tunes are included: Gary Valenciano's "Take Me Out of the Dark," Jose Marie Chan's "Be Gentle" (lyrics by Pinky Valdez, and "People of the Land," a Nonoy Tan original as performed by Gino Padilla (our country's entry to the 1989 ASEAN Popular Music Festival).

"Kapayapaan" is also produced on MTV by WEA Records, featuring all the said artists and directed by Johnny Manahan.

All the proceeds of the new "Kapayapaan" album are earmarked for the Artists for Peace Movement — a group of concerned entertainers who offer free shows to our brother soldiers in different army camps and military installations all over the country. These dedicated bunch bring cheer and boost the morale of Filipino soldiers.

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4 cops investigated for two men's slay

THE National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) picked up four Paranaque policemen who killed two businessmen in the town.

NBI director Alfredo Lim said Pfc. Rodolfo Alcala and patrolmen Roberto Barrera, Edgardo Herrera and Redentor Mariano will be under the bureau's custody while they are being investigated.

The suspects killed George Go, 37, a disco house owner, of 5 Lopez Commercial Center, Paranaque and his friend, Shik Shuyang, 33, of Kahistrado Torres St, Bacod, Sta Mesa inside a police car at about 9 am on Timothy St, Multinational Village.

Paranaque police chief Col. Rogelio Pura said the businessmen grabbed the guns of two of the policemen.

The slain businessmen's relatives however, claimed they were murdered for the huge amount of money they had.

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Mass at 5 pm by Jaime Cardinal Sin will precede the programme.

The finalists are: Radyo Batibot (DZAM); Balagtasang Bayan (DZRM); Kulay at Anyo (DZRM& DZRB); Silangan ng Eden, episode of Sa Dibdib ng Gubat (DZRM& DZRB); Ang Matandang Balon, episode of Kapirasong Langit (DZRH); Ang Guro, episode of Sa Dibdib ng Gubat (DZRM& DZRB).

Abakada na Pang-Kultura sa Himpapawid (DZRM); Place We Call Home (DWRK); Flashback (DWRB); Talinghagang Bukambibing ng mga Pilipino (DZRM); Tayong mga Pinoy (DWRK); Guidelines (DZFE); DWRB Value Sports: Morning with DZFE; Musical Souvenirs (DWRB).

Please be Careful with My Heart, words and music by Jose Mari Chan; Beautiful Girl, word and music by Jose Mari Chan; Radyo Patrol Field Reporters (DZMM); Balitakay (DZMM); the DZRH Team who covered the Dec 1 coup attempt; and Radyo Woman-watch (DWAN).



De Belen, nominated as Best Actress for Isang Araw, Walang Diyos.

THE panel of judges for film of the Annual Catholic Mass Media Awards (CMMA) has named its finalists for 1989.

These finalists automatically become part of the 1989 CMMA roster of outstanding communicators and productions. They will be awarded during the ceremonies to be held on March 2 at the Villa San Miguel on Shaw boulevard in Mandaluyong.

The finalists are: For Best Screen-play: Jose Javier Reyes for *Pahiram ng Isang Umaga*; Armando Lao for *Oras-Oras, Araw-Araw*; Peque Gallaga, Don Escudero and Lore Reyes for *Isang Araw Walang Diyos*.

For Best supporting Actor: Eric Quizon for *Pahiram ng Isang Umaga*; Cesar Montano for *Ang Bukas ay Akin*; and Romy Romulo for *Isang Walang Diyos*.

For Best Supporting Actress: Timmy Cruz for *Kung Kasalanan Man*; Cherie Gil for *Ang Bukas ay Akin*; and Zsa Zsa Padilla for *Pahiram ng Isang Umaga*.

For Best Director: Ishmael Bernal for

Pahiram ng Isang Umaga; Peque Gallaga for *Isang Araw Walang Diyos*; and Emmanuel H. Borlaza for *Oras-Oras, Araw-Araw*.

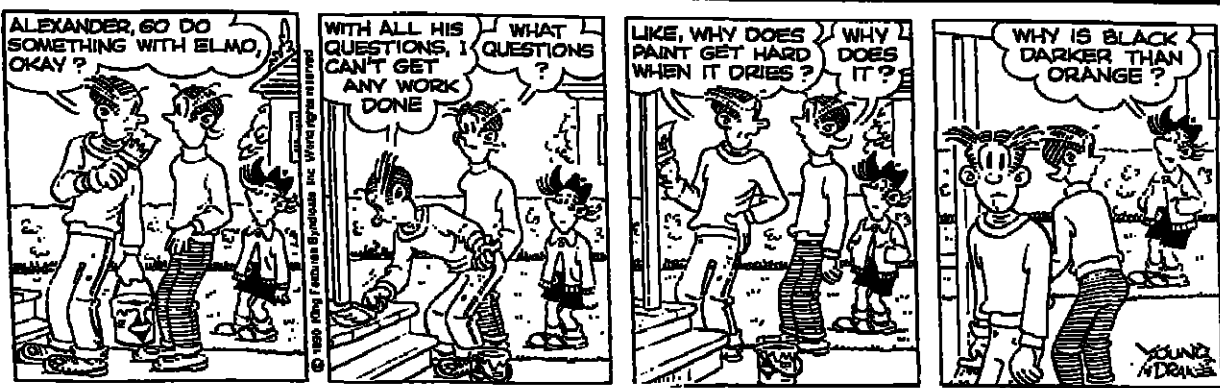
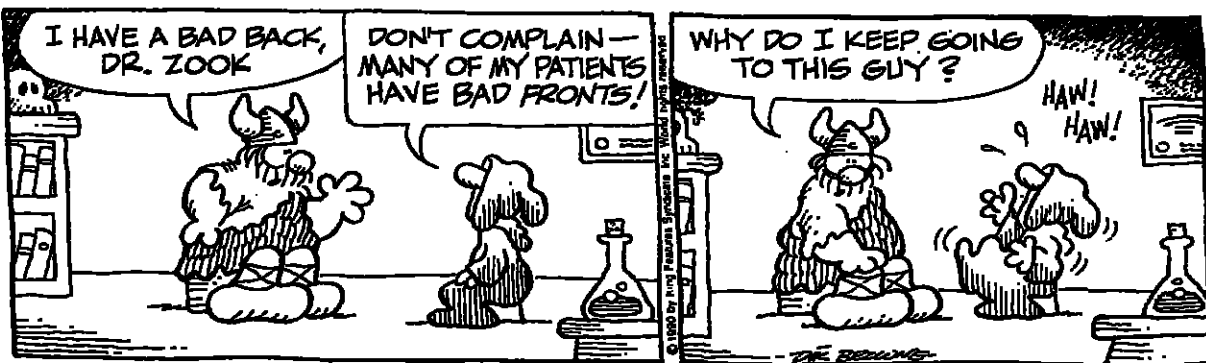
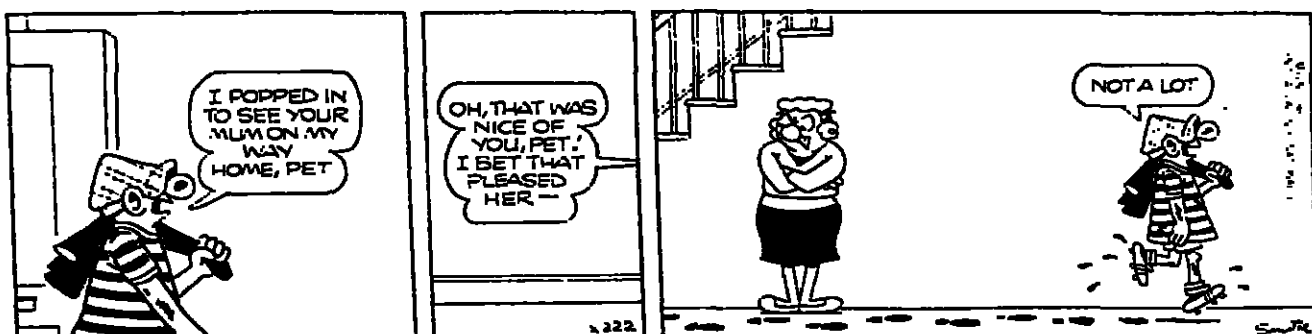
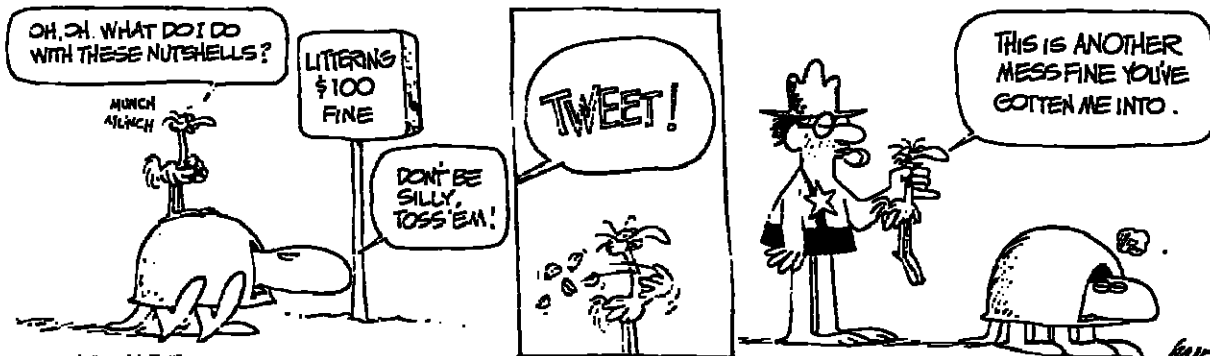
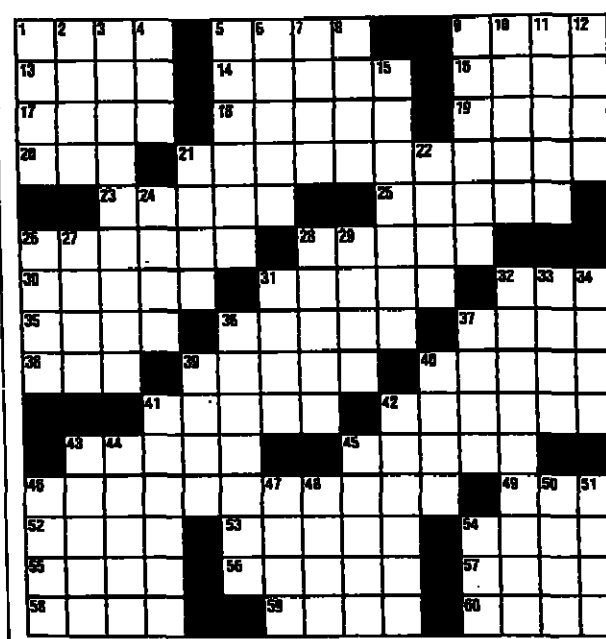
For Best Picture: Kailan Mahuhugasan ang Kasalanan, Vision Film; Oras-Oras, Araw-Araw, Viva Films; and Isang Araw Walang Diyos, Regal Films.

For Best Actor: Richard Gomez for *Isang Araw Walang Diyos* and Christopher de Leon for *Imortal*.

For Best Actress: Vilma Santos for *Pahiram ng Isang Umaga*; Lorna Tolentino for *Kailan Mahuhugasan ang Kasalanan*; Helen Gamboa for *Oras-Oras, Araw-Araw*; and Janice de Belen for *Isang Araw Walang Diyos*.

The panel of judges for Radio of the Annual Catholic Mass Media Awards (CMMA) likewise has named the finalists in the various categories of the awards for 1989.

These finalist also automatically become part of the 1989 CMMA roster of outstanding communicators and productions, and will be awarded during the March 2 ceremonies. A

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE****AGATHA CRUM** — By Billings**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD****ACROSS**

1 Post Alexander
5 "Doggone it!"
9 "That —"
13 — for all
14 Inventor Howe
16 French friend
17 Wan
18 Longest river in Europe
19 Have status
20 Biceps locale
21 Not — (refuse to help)
23 "Beauty and the —"
25 Liberates
26 Edam or Gouda
28 Fortune-telling card
30 What time does to wounds
31 Punctuation mark
32 "You — here"
35 Circle sections
36 Caesar, for one
37 Stain
38 Cheering sound
39 Distributes
40 "Most Happy —"
41 Prepares potatoes
42 Powerful business organization
43 Inscribed stone pillar
45 Moola
46 Work hard
49 Good times
52 Baseball number
53 Singer Frankie
54 Pintail duck

DOWN

1 Mama's mate
2 Bradley or Sharif
3 Florida resort
4 Compass point
5 Change
6 Up in the air
7 Pinball term
8 "The Forsyte
9 Deep red
10 Reflection
11 Religious ceremonies
12 Give the once-over
15 Orange-yellow
21 Lad's friend
22 Do a pressing job
24 Snaky fish
26 Singe
27 Zeus' wife
28 Weighty works
29 Too bad!
31 — d'Azur
32 Clumsy
33 Starlet's dream
34 Lat. list
36 Takes back
37 Actress
39 Butter or skim
40 Satyr's kin
41 School break
42 Shrinks away from
43 Sly and malicious
44 Songs
45 Receiver
46 Windsor —
47 Grub
48 Eating plan
50 Dukas' "La —"
51 Sargasso and Red
54 — Paulo

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SALTAN STS SAPS
ARENA SHOT ALICE
SCANTY POUR IDLE
HASA HEART OF GOLD
ANTE KOALAS
DEFEND PER
EVAS ELIA TESTS
BOLT FROM THE BLUE
TEASE SPEE AONE
ASS TENTER
ACCOST SLUR
BORNTOTHEPURPLE
AMES READ PARES
SMEE ELTA TRIME
HAST SET SEGAL

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

CONTROL YOURSELF

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 8

♥ 10 8 5

♦ A K 8 6

♣ J 6 5 3

WEST

♠ 7 6 4 2

♥ K Q 9 4

♦ J 7 2

♣ K 7

EAST

♠ 3

♥ A J 6 3 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q 10 9

SOUTH

♠ A K J 10 9 5

♥ 7

♦ 5 3

♣ A 8 4 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♥

To draw trumps, or not to draw?

This vexing question has been at the

root of many a bridge problem.

Even seemingly impregnable hold-

ings can fall under a forcing defense

if declarer mistimes the hand.

North-South bid well to their

four-spade contract. North has a

maximum no trump response and

since South's spade rebid in this

sequence guarantees a six-card suit,

North judged his hand worth a

raise. South had just enough to

accept.

West led the king of hearts and

continued the suit, declarer ruffing.

Next came two rounds of trumps

and it was only when East discarded

on the second that declarer became

aware of the predicament.

South tried ace and another club,

but West won and reverted to a

heart, forcing declarer's last trump.

Nine tricks were all South could

garner.

Had declarer been alive to the

possibility of the 4-1 split he could

have found a simple counter. In-

stead of drawing trumps at trick

three declarer should have played

ace and another club immediately.

The best defenders can do is to

force another ruff by continuing

hearts. Declarer can accept the ruff

and concede another club, driving

out the last of the defenders' clubs.

Should the defenders persist with a

fourth heart, declarer can ruff in

dummy, preserving his trump

length. All that remains is to draw

all the trumps and claim 10 tricks.

**"She changed her mind."****YOUR STARS**

You should not expect to have everything your own way. Something that you had forgotten about will now come back to you. It is not yet too late to make a few changes for the better. Be tactful.



If you insist on having everything just so you could well spoil everything. You will have some good luck but it will be more by way of a lucky escape. Try to exercise just a little more self-control. Be magnanimous.



You will run into an additional obstacle but perseverance will enable you to overcome it. You should avoid resorting to guesswork. And if you must, allow for the possibility that you might have guessed wrong. Be cordial.



Instead of asking for or expecting more do try to make the most of what you have. If you do you will find that it amounts to quite a lot. Avoid doing anything that might cause a rift between you and a friend. Be generous.



You should spend a little more time tidying up. If you do not you will waste a lot of time later looking for things. You should try to use a little more commonsense. Be loyal.



If you think everything will be easy you are very much mistaken. Do not do anything that would be likely to arouse animosities. You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity. Be reasonable.



You will be able to make good use of an unusual set of circumstances. Something you had feared will not now happen. You are likely to get some financial calculations wrong so be sure to check them. Be more matter of fact.



You are rather too given to exaggerations and should do your best to restrain yourself. Avoid acting on impulse and refrain from jumping to conclusions. Do not dwell on the past and do not think you have nothing to look forward to.



You should not make a promise you do not intend or would find it hard to keep. Do not permit yourself to be deceived by appearances. Something that has been mystifying you will now become much clearer. Be tolerant.



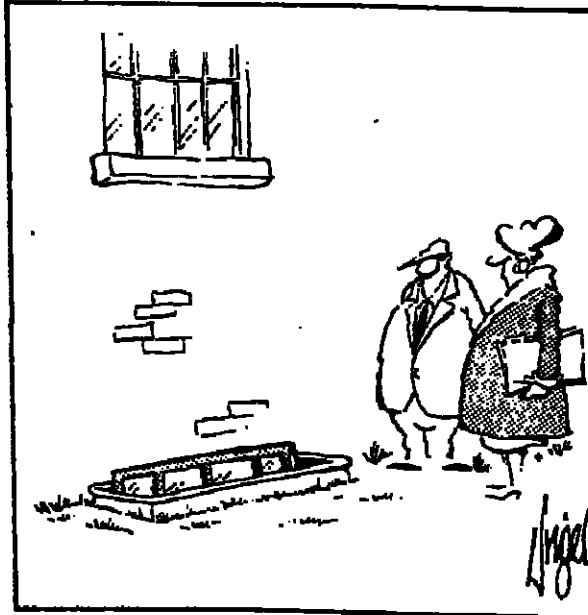
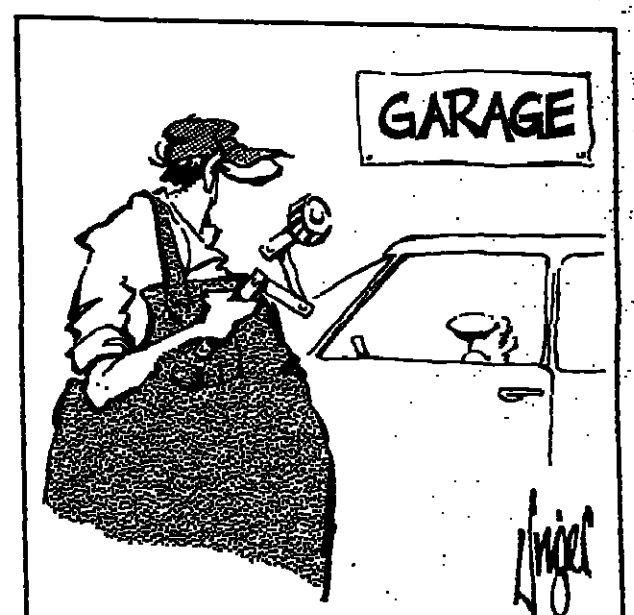
You should avoid idle chatter but you should listen carefully to what others are saying. If you are just a little more patient you will be well rewarded. You should not neglect personal matters but you must not give them precedence over work either. Be vigilant.



Something you had thought to be the case is not and you will have to think again. Your lucky numbers are 22 and 37. Make sure you get plenty enough rest and take regular note too exhausting exercise. Do not be too quick to judge by appearances. Be dependable.



You should try to show a little more goodwill towards others. You will be able to learn more about something you thought you knew just about everything. There is still time to avoid getting into bad habits. Be sincere.

**"How often do you find a basement apartment with a balcony?"****"I don't know what this is, but you need a new one."**

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KEFAN, Area 4, Muna Street, House No. 7, beside the Co-operative branch. Mulhaq with 2 bedrooms. Kitchen and bathroom. Tel. 4831178.
(AT5-HUS-3)

Available

MAIDAN Hawalli. Room with water and tele. facilities for 2 bachelors, couple or a lady to share with a Goan family. Rent KD80. Tel. 5637891.
(AT3-51632-2)

BENEID AL QAR, behind the International Hotel. Furnished accommodation with tele. facilities for a single Muslim (non-smoker person). Gutzar Ahmed Khan, 2511368 after 4.30 pm.
(AT3-51659-2)

SHARQ, near the bus stop. Spacious room with or without meals for 2 bachelors or working girls. Tel. Mrs. Jeffar, 2453924, 8 am - 1.30 pm, 6 - 8.30 pm.
(AT5-51601-3)

SALWA, House 196, Block 7, Area 4, one room with water, electricity and separate kitchen for a family or bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243.
(AT5-51603-3)

NUGRA, Khaladon Street, one room, furnished, with tele. facilities, for one or two bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tel. Oberoi, 4740801, 2644645, res.
(AT6-51628-3)

SHARQ, behind the fire brigade, 4 bedroom apartment, available from March. Rent KD170. Tel. 2419327, upto 6 pm.
(AT5-51604-3)

SALMIYA, near the Fire Station, in suitable location, separate room in a double bedroom flat for bachelors or family. Tel. Habibur Rahman, 5723529 9 am - 1 pm, 4 - 9 pm.
(AT5-51602-3)

QADISIYA, Area 4, Street 45, House 16. Three rooms with water, electricity and tele. facilities for Pakistani and Indian families. Bus routes 16, 18, 14, 37. Tel. Mrs. Zahida, 2520249, after 5 pm.
(AT5-51619-3)

MAIDAN Hawalli, near the Union Hall. One room with telephone facilities for 1 or 2 bachelors to share with a Goan family. Rent KD55. Tel. 5639632, after 3 pm.
(AT6-51640-3)

DAIYA Area 3, Street 37, House 7. Three rooms with water and electricity for Pakistani and Indian families. Bus routes 14, 37, 38, 18, 502. Contact Saud, after 5 pm.
(AT5-51620-3)

MAIDAN Hawalli. Accommodation with tele. facilities for Mangalorean bachelors to share with a family. Tel. Nobee, 5642176, after 12.30 pm.
(AT1-51644-2)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

DOUBLE bed, with hydraulic system for back and front side elevation, side table lights, IKEA curtains and carpets, plants, frames, small items. Muthanna Complex, Block 5, Floor 10, Apt 1024. Tel. Refik, 2423680.
(AT3-51656-3)

FAXPHONE from USA, 110V, transformer included, KD300, monogram monitor, KD20, keyboard (IBM) KD10. Tel. 5748856.
(AT3-51657-3)

SHAAB, 3-bedroom, non-central, spacious apartment for rent. Items for sale, carpets, curtains, 3-door fridge and children bedroom set from 15-3-90. Tel. 2615888, 5.30 - 8.30 pm only.
(AT6-51625-3)

SPACIOUS two-bedroom flat for sale, near the Kuwait International Hotel. Rent KD165. One Wuritzer piano, KD250. Also one-bedroom flat in Bandra. Tel. Mr De Mello, 2446356, 8 am - 8 pm.
(AT1-51647-3)

HOUSEHOLD items — single and double bed, baby cot, sofa, TV trolley etc. for sale. Tel. 4312908.
(AT4-51579-3)

FLAT for sale in Jabriya, 2 bedrooms, AC, rent KD165 with water. Reasonable price. Tel. 5323890.
(AT5-51614-3)

COOKER, KD80; Refrigerator KD60. Tel. 5335482 (leave message if no answer).
(AT5-51616-3)

AMERICAN style 2-bedroom apartment, fully furnished in Fintas with appliances, for sale. Rent KD135 including water, available from April. Tel. 3902539, after 6 pm.
(AT1-51637-3)

SEVEN pieces sofa, matching carpet, centre table, two single beds and two cabinets. Philips rotating grill, Seb grill. All are at reasonable prices. Tel. 5641260, 9 - 11 am, 6 - 8 pm.
(AT6-51627-2)

BRAND new National VHS movie NV-M7EM camera, KD300, Tripod KD15, oil heater KD5, sofa set 3.1.1 in excellent condition, etc. Tel. Ararat, 5740215, 8 am - 10 pm.
(AT6-51636-3)

GARAGE sale: All household equipment, furniture, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, clothes, plants, garden furniture etc. at Salwa, Area 2, Street 9, House 65.
(AT5-51593-3)

SOFA sets and other furniture, TV, video and many household items for sale. Also used office furniture. Tel. 2662235.
(AT5-51599-3)

HOUSEHOLD furniture, Westinghouse refrigerator, carpet, and Philips TV 26", white, in good condition, and good price. Tel. 3720317.
(AT6-51634-2)

TUMBLE dryer, dish washer, 3 piece suite and other household items. All at reasonable prices. Tel. 5718371, after 2.30 pm.
(AT2-51655-3)

CONTENTS of one bedroom flat in Farwaniya for sale. Cheap price. Also flat available for rent from 1.3-90. Rent KD100. Tel. 4813357, 9033051.
(AT5-51617-3)

Cars

TOYOTA Cressida '82, manual, company maintained, single hand driven in very good condition. KD850. Tel. 5327597.
(AT3-51648-3)

PORSCHE 928 S, 1983, fully automatic, full options, burgandy colour, low mileage, in excellent condition. Tel. 5635630 res.
(AT1-51652-3)

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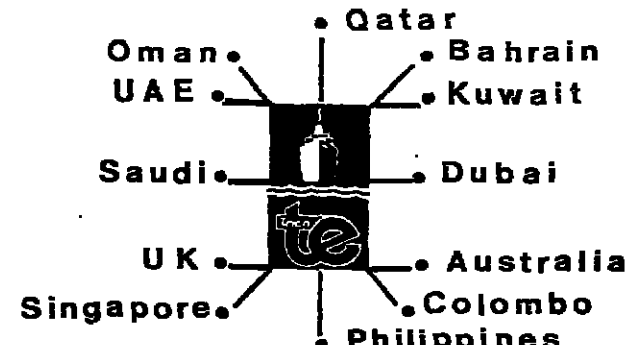
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Cullman, Kodes to be honoured

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25. (Reuters): Former Wimbledon and French Open champion Jan Kodes of Czechoslovakia and women's tennis patron Joseph F. Cullman 3rd were named yesterday as the next members of the International Tennis of Fame.

Kodes and Cullman will be inducted on July 14 in Newport, Rhode Island, said Gene Scott, the Hall of Fame vice-president and nominating committee chairman.

Kodes won the French Open in 1970 and 1971 and claimed the Wimbledon crown in 1973. He also represented Czechoslovakia in the Davis Cup from 1964-1980.

"It's a great honour for me," Kodes said in a statement sent from Czechoslovakia. "Probably I am the first Czech ever to be inducted for the tennis Hall of Fame, because Czech Jaroslav Drobný, Wimbledon champ in 1954, was inducted in 1983."

Cullman, the chairman emeritus of Philip Morris Inc., was cited for his contributions to the women's game. Under his leadership, Virginia Slims became sponsors of the women's Tour in 1970. Cullman was also instrumental in the restoration of the Newport casino, the home of the Hall of Fame.

Garrison holds on to beat Zvereva

Navratilova routs Seles for final

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25: Top-seeded Martina Navratilova advanced to the final of the \$350,000 Virginia Slims of Washington, needing less than an hour yesterday to defeat teenager Monica Seles 6-3, 6-0.

Navratilova, a nine-time winner of the event, was to play for the \$70,000 first prize this evening against her doubles partner, Zina Garrison, who downed Natalia Zvereva 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in yesterday's first semifinal.

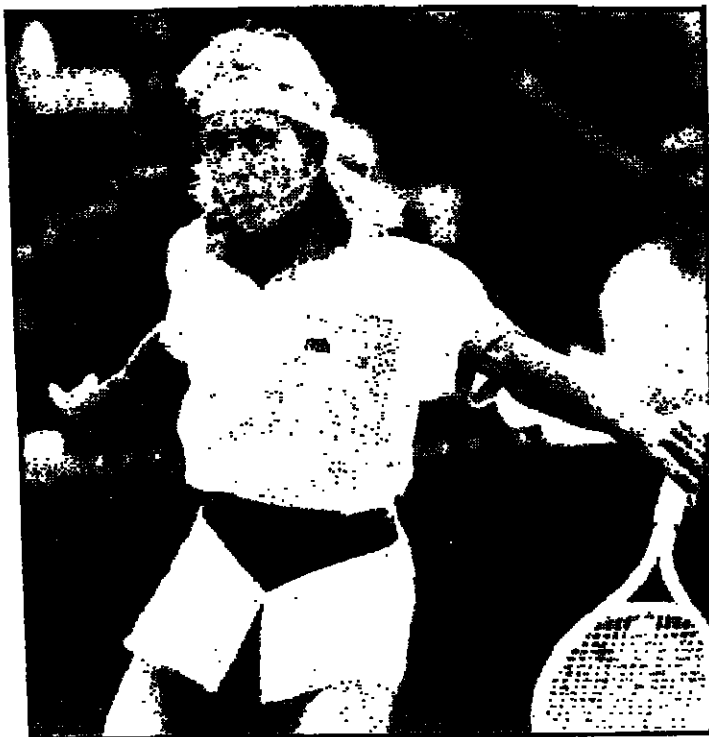
Seles, the No. 3 seed from Yugoslavia, put up a struggle in the first set but Navratilova's relentless attack overpowered Seles the rest of the way. The set lasted only 56 minutes.

Navratilova, of Aspen, Colo., began the match with a service break, but Seles immediately broke back on the strength of two sudden returns of service.

With the score tied 2-2, Navratilova broke her opponent twice to go ahead 5-2. Seles, one of the hardest hitters on the women's Tour, again produced a couple of winners from the baseline to close within 5-3.

But Navratilova closed out the set when Seles' forehand sailed wide of the baseline. Seles, 0-3 against Navratilova, provided little resistance during a second set that lasted 21 minutes.

"I wasn't going to let her get back into the match," said



Navratilova: had a very easy match

Navratilova, who 20 minutes after her victory, was back on court with Garrison in a doubles semifinal.

Garrison, the No. 2 seed, overcame problems with the lights and a second-set resurgence by Zvereva.

Garrison, last year's runner-up, repeatedly charged the net in the final two games of the deciding third set to overcome the talented but erratic Soviet player.

"I decided to come to the net and let her hit passing shots if she



Garrison: earns 2nd straight trip to final

could," Garrison said. "She's basically a clay court player and I didn't want to get lulled into that kind of game."

Garrison, 26, lost the opening game of the first set after committing back-to-back double faults. She settled down to capture the

final four games of the set. Zvereva, who traded hard forehands and sliced backhands in the first set, switched to looping top-spin shots and the change in tactics paid off. After breaking Garrison at love, Zvereva held serve before again breaking her

opponent's service to lead, 3-0. Garrison rallied to 4-3, but Zvereva clinched the set with a drop shot set up by a lob.

Zvereva, 18, the No. 4 seed who seems to play best when behind, lost concentration at the start of the third set and Garrison capitalized to take a 3-0 advantage.

Zvereva closed to 4-3 before Garrison's repeated forays to the net ensured her a second straight trip to the final.

■ In Oklahoma City, Okla., hard-hitting American teenager Amy Frazier upset top seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria 1-6 6-3 6-3 to earn the right to challenge defending champion Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands in today's final.

Bollegraf, the fifth seed, beat unseeded American Angelica Gavaldon 6-4 7-5 in her semifinal.

The 17-year-old Frazier, seeded third, belted the ball from both sides along the baseline and moved back into contention when Maleeva's serve deserted her.

"Even Steffi Graf doesn't hit as hard, so consistently, as Frazier did today," said Maleeva, who is ranked seventh in the world. "She started playing out of her mind and kept doing it."

Afghan sports violent

KABUL, Feb. 25. (Reuters): Violence is a way of life for many in war-torn Afghanistan, even in sports.

The most famous and breathtaking of Afghan sports is Buzkashi, in which teams of 60 to 100 horsemen on each side struggle at full gallop for possession of the carcass of a freshly killed goat, calf or sheep. A less well-known but even more violent sport is dog-fighting, with matches generally held on Friday holidays in an open field outside Kabul.

Dog-fighting is supposed to have a long history and tradition in Afghanistan, though few people seem to know any details of its past.

Transport Minister Lieutenant General Abdul Khalilullah said dog-fighting was too cruel and bloody. He said it was the sport of the lower classes, especially shepherds who raise fierce dogs to protect their flocks from wolves.

The fighting dogs are not the sleek Afghan hounds famous throughout the world, but highland varieties, big shaggy animals bred for their ferocity and strength. They resemble St Bernards or huskies.

Khalilullah said he raised fighting dogs in his youth as a hobby and at one time had seven or eight of them in his stable.

He said at the peak of their training the dogs run 30 km (20 miles) daily up and down mountains and through marshes.

For breakfast they are fed milk and eggs, and their main meal consists of the cooked head of a sheep or goat.

"Some people who can hardly afford to care for themselves make sure their prize dog has the best food," he said. "A well-known dog brings prestige to the head of the family and that counts for a lot."

Least Khalilullah said a good dog cost up to 300,000 afghanis (\$3,500 at the official rate), a princely sum considering the average monthly wage in Afghanistan, one of the least developed countries in the world, is 3,000 afghanis (\$35).

On a cold and wind-swept Friday morning recently, a group of 500 people cheered as two huge dogs tore at each other.

The spectators were oblivious to the wailing of army missiles above them, heading towards suspected rebel hideouts in the snow-capped mountains overlooking Kabul.

After the dogs had gnawed and clawed at each other for 15 minutes, the owner of one of them conceded defeat and the fight was stopped.

"Very rarely do dogs die during a fight," one of the spectators said. He looked downcast and it appeared he had lost a bet, though he would not admit it.

Between matches, people warded off the cold by sitting in small groups and smoking waterpipes filled with hashish.

A referee matched dogs according to size, and if the owners agreed, the fight was on.

The rules are simple: if a dog runs or the owner concedes, the fight is over.

Owners and trainers are allowed to talk to their dogs during the fight to encourage them.

An interpreter quoted one of them as telling his dog: "Come on, my father, you can do it, you can beat that miserable animal." His dog lost.

Fans said more than 1,000 spectators and 100 dogs attended a fight on a good day. The animals are brought in from all over the country.

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Sampras and Gomez sail through

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25. (Reuters): American teenager Pete Sampras reached his first professional tournament final yesterday by beating Australian qualifier Mark Kratzmann 4-6 6-1 6-4 in the semifinals of the million-dollar US Pro Indoor Championship.

Sampras, 18, was to go against Andres Gomez of Ecuador in this evening's best of five sets final worth \$135,000 to the winner. Gomez thrashed unseeded Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia 6-2 6-0 in his semifinal match.

"Obviously, tomorrow I'll be a little nervous being in my first final," Sampras said. "After five or six games, I'll be okay."

A rash of upsets paved the way for the Gomez-Sampras final. Sampras, seeded 13th, provided some of the surprises as he ousted fifth seed Tim Mayotte in the quarters and had number three Andre Agassi retire against him in third round complaining of

food poisoning.

The seventh-seeded Gomez, who needed just 47 minutes to dismantle a mistake-ridden Korda, did not think his experience would necessarily favour him against Sampras.

"The kids today are not only playing better, their composure is much better on the court," said Gomez, 29.

Sampras, ranked number 32, plays a loose and confident game. Once he found his rhythm in the second set, the weary Kratzmann had no chance.

Kratzmann, a 23-year-old who won three qualifying matches to make the main draw, played smart against Sampras in the opening set before withering under the teenager's pressure as having eight matches in a row finally took its toll on the slightly-built, 1.73-metre Kratzmann. "I'm very disappointed,"



Gomez crushed Korda

Kratzmann said. "With the top guys out of it, it could've been from qualifying to winning it. That's what I was thinking."

Sampras, who reached the semifinals two weeks ago in Milan, said: "I'm very happy, but I'm not going crazy about it. I still have a final to play. I'm going to stay calm and down to earth."

Morocco to host \$150,000 tourney

CASABLANCA, Feb. 25. (Reuters): The inaugural King Hassan Grand Prix men's tennis tournament, offering \$150,000 in prize money, will be held at a new 3,500 seat sports complex in Casablanca on March 3-11, organisers announced yesterday.

Mohamed Mjid, president of the Moroccan Tennis Federation, said 200 players from 20 nations had been invited to the event, including Thomas Muster of Austria, Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina and Yugoslavia's Goran Prpic. First prize is \$18,000.

US meet succeeds without stars

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (UPI): US track and field pulled off a successful garden party Friday even without its biggest stars.

Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Renaldo Nehemiah and a contingent of athletes from the Santa Monica Track Club and the world class athletics club were among those who failed to compete in the USA/Mobil Indoor Track and Field Championships at Madison Square Garden. No matter. The meet survived, and even thrived, without them.

If fact, it was probably the best competition at the US indoor championships over the last three years. The meet produced American records by Lynn Jennings in the women's 3,000 and Lance Deal in the 35-pound throw, and some stunning races.

The absence of the big names gave lesser known

and often overshadowed athletes a chance to show their talents. Hurdler Tony Dees, sprinters Lavonna Martin and Michelle Finn capitalised on their opportunities to shine and claim their first national titles. All three won spectacular races.

Larry Myricks, overshadowed by Carl Lewis the last decade, won his eighth national long jump crown and Diane Dixon captured her eighth straight 400 metres title and ninth overall to become the meet's winningest woman.

Dees, who competes for George Steingbrenner's Florida Clippers, defeated two-time Olympic champion Roger Kingdom and Olympians Arthur Blake and Tom Campbell in the 35-metre hurdles. The race also lacked injured Greg Foster and Nehemiah and Jack Pierce, who failed to show for the meet.

Aouita nips Kariuki in indoor premiere

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Feb. 25. (AP): Said Aouita, running indoors for the first time this season, held off Julius Kariuki down the stretch to win the featured 3,000 metres at the inaugural DN Games Track and Field Meet yesterday.

The Moroccan, holder of five outdoor world records but none indoors, clocked 7 minutes, 50.64 seconds at the Globe Arena.

Kariuki, the Olympic 3,000-metre steeplechase champion from Kenya, was four hundredths of a second behind. "I want the world record, but it's very hard to break it in my first race of the season," said Aouita.

Despite the relatively slow time, Aouita said the Globe Arena's brand new track was very fast.

"I would have run two or three races, then come here and try to beat the record, if I had known that the track was so fast," he said.

Aouita, who ran his last outdoor race Sept. 18, in India, seldom competes indoors.

"I'm going to run one more indoor race in Spain on Tuesday, and that's all for this season," he said.

A year ago, Aouita missed Belgian Emiel Puttemans' world 3,000-metre mark of 7:39.2, which has stood since 1973, by half a second with a 7:39.71 in a race during his first US indoor tour.

Aouita, who holds the world outdoor records in the 1,500, 2,000, 3,000 and 5,000 metre and the two-mile, said he will try to



Aouita (left) and Elliott scored contrasting victories

beat the mile record this summer. "I'm sure I can do it," he said.

"I'm preparing for the mile record since this will be my last season running the middle distance events. Next year I will concentrate on the 5,000 and 10,000 metres."

Steve Cram of Britain set the mile record of 3:46.32 at Bislett Stadium in Oslo, Norway, in 1985. Aouita's best is 3:46.76, the second fastest all-time, from 1987.

Commonwealth champion Peter Elliott of Britain coasted to



Aouita (left) and Elliott scored contrasting victories

an easy victory in the 1,500 metres in 3:44.94 for his third consecutive indoor triumph. Elliott won two miles in the US recently.

Herve Philippeau of France, the 1989 European indoor champion, was runnerup in 3:45.62, and Jens-Peter Herold of East Germany was third in 3:46.54.

The Americans dominated the shortest races, with James Butler winning the 200 metres in 21.37 and 400-metre hurdles specialist Danny Harris taking the 400 in 46.39.

Veteran Houston McTeer, 33, still a fast starter, led the 60 metres most of the way. But Chidi Imoh of Nigeria edged him in the finish by four hundredths of a second. Imoh's winning time was 6.68.

"It was my first loss in five meets in Sweden, but the field was a lot tougher today," said McTeer, a former world record-holder in the 60 who now lives in Sweden.

Jack Pierce was the only other American winner, clocking 7.68 in the 60-metre hurdles. Igor Kazanov of the Soviet Union

was eight hundredths behind. World indoor champion Rodion Gataulin, who was ranked No. 1 outdoors last year, cleared 5.80 metres to easily win the pole vault.

"Unfortunately I didn't bring a stiff pole for the meet," the Soviet vaulter said. "The track was so fast here. It's a lot slower in other European meets."

Philippe Colet of France finished runnerup at 5.65. Brazil's Jose Luiz Barbosa, the 1987 world indoor champion, took the 800 in 1:48.32.

Sandra Gasser of Switzerland, back in action after serving two years in a hotly contested steroid suspension, won a tight women's 1,500 metres in 4:12.41.

Ellen Kießling of East Germany ran second in 4:13.73, with Ely van Hulst of Holland, the world 3,000 indoor record holder, third in 4:13.77.

Jill Hunter of Britain led all the way to capture the 3,000 in 9:04.55.

Sisko Hanhijoki of Finland was a surprise winner of the women's 60 metres in 7.26. Patricia Girard of France was second in 7.29, and world indoor record holder Nellie Cooman-Fiere of Holland third in 7.31.

Other winners in the women's events included world indoor champion Galina Chistyakova of the Soviet Union, who took the long jump at 6.75 metres, and Christine Hurdin of France, who clocked 8.14 in the 60-metre hurdles.

Sweden beat Finland 75-63 in a separate men's dual meet. The Swedish women also prevailed 62-55.

SPORTS

Daniel scores 3-shot victory

EWA BEACH, Hawaii, Feb 25. (Reuters) Both Daniel held steady during the final round of the \$350,000 Hawaiian Open golf tournament and emerged the winner as her even-par 72 over the last 18 holes yesterday gave her a three-shot victory.

Daniel, who led by two shots after 36 holes, finished with a six-under-par 210 total to win the \$52,500 top prize.

Second place was shared by Patty Sheehan and Amy Benz, who shot 71 and 73, respectively.

"I was driving the ball close all day," Daniel said, "but I wasn't hitting my irons close and was not giving myself any opportunities."

The turning point of the round came at the 43rd hole, par-5 13th. Going into that hole, Daniel and Benz were tied at five under par.

Daniel hit a 3-wood to the fringe of the green and chipped a seven-iron to within three feet of the cup and sank the putt for birdie. Benz hit her approach into a greenside bunker, hit out and then three-putted for bogey, sliding two shots behind Daniel.

Daniel said: "That hole was the most crucial of the final round. I wouldn't want to have to hit that chip shot again."

And in Pacific Palisades, Calif., Fred Couples playing with remarkable accuracy, tied the course record of -62 at the million-dollar Los Angeles Open yesterday to take a two-shot lead going into today's final round.

Couples, who began the day four shots off the pace, recorded 10 birdies and one bogey over the 6,946 yard, par-71 Riviera CC to tie the mark set by Larry Mize in 1985. His three-day total of 16-under-par 197 established a new 54-hole record for this event, which dates back to 1926.

Gil Morgan, who shot a 65, and Rocco Mediate, who posted a 67, were tied for second place at 199, Hale Irwin and Hal Sutton were another three strokes back at 202.

Couples, whose last tournament win was in 1985, shot a five-under-par 30 on the outward nine despite a bogey on the second hole. He had four more birdies coming in, including a tap-in after a seven-iron approach at the 44th hole.

"Just one of those days," said Couples. "I don't know if it was a flawless round, but I played very well. Every time I looked up the ball was going where I looked."

Perfect conditions helped keep scores low on the difficult Riviera Country Club course.

Morgan, who shot 67s in his first two rounds, has played all 54 holes of this event with a bogey and has reached the green in regulation on 49 of the 54 holes he has played.

"This is pretty different for me not making any bogeys," said Morgan, who has won this event twice before. "I don't know if I've ever gone this many holes without one before."

Mediate had perhaps the day's most exciting shot.

After suffering a double bogey on the 12th hole to drop back in the chase for the \$180,000-dollar first prize, Mediate sank his 176-yard approach shot at the 42nd hole for an eagle two.

Michael Allen, the overnight leader, suffered a double bogey seven on the first hole and went on to record a one-over-par 72 that left him six strokes back at 203.

Fraser takes five for 28 W. Indies out for 164

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Feb 25. (Reuters) Angus Fraser took five for 28 yesterday as England upset the form boom by dismissing West Indies for 164 on the opening day of the first cricket Test.

The big fast-medium bowler destroyed the West Indies' lower order with five for six in 36 balls, after the home side had reached 62 without losing a wicket.

It was the West Indies' lowest score against England in the Caribbean for 22 years.

England, who have not beaten the West Indies since 1974, were an encouraging 80 for two at the close with Wayne Larkins 28 not out.

After Viv Richards had won the toss and elected to bat, West Indies cruised to 62 before Gordon Greenidge was run out for 32.

Devon Malcolm on long leg initially fumbled the ball but recovered to fire in a perfect return which found the veteran West Indian batsman short of his ground.

West Indies, 72 for one at lunch, lost their way after the interval as the four England pacemen stuck rigorously to their line-and-length policy.

David Capel induced Richie Richardson into a skied pull when he had scored 10 and followed up by having Carlisle Best caught behind for four.

Gladstone Small caught and bowled Desmond Haynes for 36, the day's top score, then Malcolm seized the prize wicket of Richards lbw for 21.

Richards had threatened to cut loose, hitting five boundaries in his brief innings, before he tried to pull a ball too far up for the shot.

Fraser scythed through the remainder of the batting with only wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon, who was unbeaten on 19, showing any resistance.

Larkins and captain Graham Gooch gave England just the start they needed as the fearsome West Indian pace attack strove to put their side back in the match.

Gooch twice clipped Patterson to the square leg boundary while Larkins, playing his first Test for nine years, cut and drove Bishop

for two fours.

But West Indies went some way to redressing the balance when Gooch was acrobatically caught behind by Dujon off Patrick Patterson for 18.

Alec Stewart looked confident in scoring 13 but could make nothing of a wicked delivery from Ian Bishop which flew off his glove to Best at second slip.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings	
G. Greenidge run out	32
D. Haynes c and b Small	36
R. Richardson c Small b Capel	10
C. Best c Russell b Capel	4
C. Hooper c Capel b Fraser	20
V. Richards lbw b Malcolm	21
J. Dujon not out	19
M. Marshall c Fraser	0
I. Bishop c Larkins b Fraser	0
C. Walsh b Fraser	6
P. Patterson b Fraser	0
Extras (b-9 lb-3 nb-4)	16
Total	164
Fall of wickets: 1-62 2-81 3-92 4-92 5-124 6-144 7-144 8-150 9-164	
Bowling: Small 15-8-44-1, Malcolm 16-4-49-1, Fraser 20-8-28-5, Capel 13-4-31-2	
Umpires: L. Barker and S. Bucknor	
ENGLAND first innings	
G. Gooch c Dujon b Patterson	18
W. Larkins not out	28
A. Stewart c Best b Bishop	13
A. Lamb not out	10
Extras (b-8 nb-3)	11
Total for two wickets	80
Fall of wickets: 1-40 2-60	
Bowling to date: Patterson 7-1-33-1, Bishop 4-0-18-1, Marshall 5-1-9-0, Walsh 2-0-12-0	
To bat: R. Smith, N. Hussain, D. Capel, J. Russell, G. Small, A. Fraser, D. Malcolm	



England's Devon Malcolm follows through after bowling to W. Indies' Desmond Haynes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Jones, Crowe hammer Indians

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 25. (Reuters) New Zealand tore the Indian attack apart in the third Test today, with a relentless series of high scores capped by Andrew Jones' 144 not out.

The home side took advantage of an Eden Park pitch which has produced high scores throughout to make a second innings 416 for five on the fourth day.

The big total, including another century from Martin Crowe, put New Zealand in a strong position for tomorrow's final day after trailing the tourists by 91 in the first innings.

John Wright, not out overnight, began the riot of runs in a second wicket partnership which put on 148. He scored 74 before trying to hit a delivery from leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani into the stand, which Atul Wasson caught relatively easily.

The struggling Indians then suffered another big partnership of 179 between Jones and Martin Crowe, who had played poorly in the series until now.

Crowe played attractive shots and hit 17 fours in his 113, which he scored in 227 minutes. Jones' performance was much more laborious, taking 406 balls to hit his 144, including 13 fours and two sixes.

After Crowe's departure, burly left-hander Mark Greatbatch played the Indian attack to the tune of 43 runs.

The only wicket they took cheaply during the day was that of Ken Rutherford who edged a drive at Hirwani and was caught behind for eight.

Hirwani took a heavy punishment but ended as India's most successful bowler, with three for 143.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 391 (I. Smith 173, R. Hadlee 87)	
INDIA first innings 482 (M. Azharuddin 192, A. Wasson 53, K. More 50)	
NEW ZEALAND second innings (overnight 135 for one)	
T. Franklin lbw b Prabhakar	2
J. Wright c Wasson b Hirwani	74
Total for five wickets	416



Crowe (left) being congratulated after completing his century. (Reuters wirephoto)

Australia win World Series Cup

Taylor hits one-day best

SYDNEY, Feb 25. (Reuters) Mark Taylor hit his best one-day international score of 76 as Australia clinched the World Series Cup 2-0 with a 69-run win over Pakistan in the second match of the best-of-three finals today.

Taylor, supported by 44 from fellow opener Tom Moody, a fluent 46 by Dean Jones and captain Allan Border's rapid 34 not out, spurred Australia to 255 for six in their 50 overs.

Pakistan, who lost openers Saeed Anwar and Rameez Raja with only six scored, were dismissed for 186 in 45 overs after another disappointing batting performance.

Imran Khan's team made only 162 all out in a seven-wicket defeat in the first match in Melbourne on Friday, and their display here completed a tour in which they fell well short of expectations.

They arrived in December claiming to be world cricket's second best team behind West Indies but lost the three-Test series to Australia 1-0 and failed to do themselves justice in the limited overs Cup.

competition in which Sri Lanka also took part. Australia, having won the toss, were given an ideal start by Taylor and Moody, who put on 84, and Taylor consolidated in a second wicket partnership of 95 with Jones.

Jones followed his unbeaten 83 in the first match with another stylish innings and was named Player of the Finals.

Border sustained the tempo by striking his 34 off only 35 deliveries as poor fielding helped Australia expand their total in the final onslaught.

Australia maintained the initiative when Terry Alderman had Rameez lbw without scoring and Simon O'Donnell had Anwar caught behind for five.

All-rounder Wasim Akram, promoted from the middle order to number three, provided a glimmer of hope by blazing 36 off 30 deliveries, including a six and six fours, before he was stumped off off-spinner Peter Taylor.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA	10-0-43-1 (1nb), Waqar 10-0-48-0 (1nb 2w), Nadeem 10-0-45-1, Mush-taq 10-0-65-2	Mushtaq Ahmed c Healy b P. Taylor 0	
M. Taylor c Younis b Mushtaq	78	Waqar Younis not out	20
T. Moody c Younis b Nadeem	44	Nadeem Ghauri c Campbell b O'Donnell	4
D. Jones run out	46	Extras (lb-2 nb-2 w-2)	6
A. Border not out	34	Total (45 overs)	186
M. Waugh run out	14	Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-6, 3-52, 4-62, 5-72, 6-76, 7-132, 8-132, 9-176	
S. O'Donnell c Younis b Imran	3	Bowling: T. Alderman 7-1-28-2 (1nb), S. O'Donnell 6-1-38-3, P. Taylor 10-0-43-3, C. Rackemann 8-1-20-0, P. Campbell 7-0-21-1 (1nb), A. Border 7-0-34-0	
L. Healy c Saeed b Mushtaq	15	Result: Australia won by 69 runs. Australia win the series 2-0.	
P. Taylor not out	30		
Extras (b-1 lb-11 nb-2 w-8)	23		
Total (six wickets, 50 overs)	255		
Fall of wickets: 1-84, 2-179, 3-188, 4-207, 5-214, 6-231			
Bowling: Akram 10-0-42-0, Imran O'Donnell	59		



Mark Taylor

Cuba shows depth of talent at World Cup

HAVANA, Feb 25. (Reuters) Cuba showed the strength and depth of its boxing talent by scooping all eight gold and silver medals in the finals of the first phase of the World Boxing Cup yesterday.

All eight Cuban contenders had been undefeated up to the finals and their foreign opponents were left to fight for the bronze medals in the four weight categories.

But despite the level of skills on display, there were no knockouts in the all-Cuban finals, which lacked the additional spark that a clash of nationalities can bring.

The most gripping fight pitted middleweight Orestes Solano against Ramon Garbey. The two spent most of the five rounds grappling at close quarters, with Solano giving his opponent a lesson in how to deliver body blows.

Garbey seemed to have no answer to Solano's piston-like assaults but lost only narrowly on points.

The experience of Candelario triumphed over the youthful aggression of Livan Blanco in the light-welterweight category final.

Blanco did most of the work, launching vicious combinations of left and right hooks, but Duvergel scored steadily with his accurate left jab and won comfortably on points.

Their fight was interrupted by power failure that briefly plunged the arena into near-darkness.

In the featherweight final, the apparently casual style of Arnaldo Mesa contrasted sharply with the brisker, attacking approach of Eddy Suarez.

The home crowd whistled at Mesa for constantly backing away but he skillfully found the gaps in the guard of his attacking opponent and took the gold medal on points.

Light-heavyweight Roberto Alvarez had the easiest final of the night, winning the gold by default as opponent Jorge Gonzalez could not fight because of an eye injury received in the semifinals.

The most controversial fight for bronze was in the middleweight category, where big East German Wolf Preiss was awarded a win on computer points over hard-hitting Brazilian Luis Carlos Almeida.

Almeida unleashed a barrage of blows at the retreating German but was penalised for punching with the inside of his glove.

The Cuban crowd disputed East German's victory with whistles and cheered the dejected Brazilian as he left the ringside.

The remaining eight category titles of the re-organised World Cup will be decided in the next two phases to be held in Dublin, Ireland, in September and Bombay, India in November.

Wilkins and Smith help Atlanta win

ATLANTA, Feb 25. (AP) Kenny Smith's layup with 37 seconds left and Dominique Wilkins' windmilled dunk 10 seconds later clinched Atlanta's 104-96 victory over the Houston Rockets last night.

Wilkins finished with 26 points and 12 rebounds to pace the Hawks, while Kevin Willis had 25 points and 10 rebounds.

Otis Thorpe led Houston with 25 points and 12 rebounds, and Akeme Olajuwon had 22 points and 19 rebounds.

Bullets 144, Magic 124

Bernard King scored 36 points and Ledell Eackles had 27 as the Washington Bullets scored a season-high point total in a 141-124 victory over Orlando, the Magic's fifth straight loss.

The Bullets took control of the game with a 16-1 run late in the first quarter to open a 37-21 lead. Washington led by more than 20 points for most of the game until Orlando made a 16-2 run to close to within 115-103 with 6:21 to play.

Terry Catledge led Orlando with 31 points and 13 rebounds. Reggie Theus added 28 points. Suns 128, 76ers 99

Tom Chambers led a balanced Phoenix attack with 25 points as the Suns won their 15th consecutive home game, defeating the Philadelphia 76ers 126-99. Phoenix now has won eighth straight games overall, 21 of its last 24 and is 7-0 since the All-Star break to help coach Cotton Fitzsimmons even his 17-year NBA coaching record at 678-678.

Kevin Johnson had 22 points and Jeff Hornacek and Dan Majerle 20 apiece for the Suns.

Kasparov leads

LINAES, Spain, Feb 25. (Reuters) Soviet world champion Garry Kasparov took the solo lead in the Linares international chess tournament after his main rival Boris Gelfand suffered his first defeat in the sixth round yesterday.

Kasparov, who had shared the lead with Gelfand, agreed to a draw after 27 moves against Yugoslavia's Ljubomir Ljubolevic who played his best game so far in the tournament in a nimzo Indian defence.

Young Soviet grandmaster Gelfand lost to Britain's Nigel Short after 35 moves of the same defence.

Kasparov and fellow Soviet Vasily Ivanchuk, who drew with Boris Gulko of the United States after 24 moves, are the only unbeaten players left in the tournament, one of the biggest in the past few years with the top 16th category. They were to play each other today in the seventh round.

Douglas enters the wrestling ring

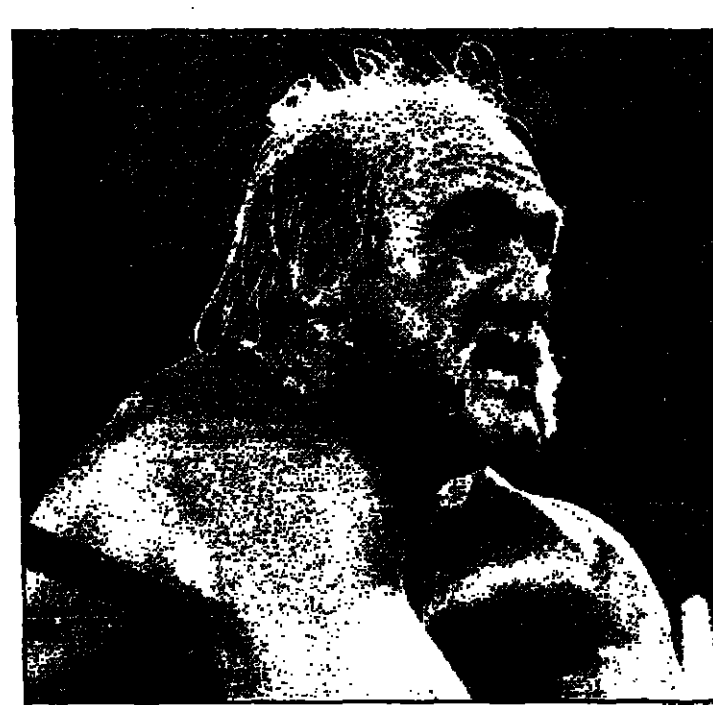
DETROIT, Feb 25. (AP) Just two weeks had gone by since Buster Douglas was standing the same way, an arm elevated in victory. But my, how things look different in a wrestling ring.

To become the heavyweight boxing champion, Douglas wasn't forced to take a ruthless woman named Sensational Sherri or fend off a "Macho Man" who had been escorted to ringside in a chariot.

He merely had to knock out Mike Tyson, a deed some said couldn't be done.

But with that accomplished, Douglas inherited a spotlight and \$100,000 job that Tyson no longer wanted — refereeing the World Wrestling Federation Championship bout on Friday, which pitted title-holder Hulk Hogan against Randy "Macho Man" Savage.

Professional wrestling in America is far different from Olympic wrestling. It is pure entertainment, with huge men — and sometimes women — wearing outrageous costumes and hurling outrageous taunts in each other's faces. The matches themselves are scripted duels between good and evil characters, with the outcome determined in advance.



Hulk Hogan: beat Macho Man

Douglas, however, proved that boxing and wrestling, not to mention a bit of acting, can indeed mix. Donning referee stripes, he delved into the sport of showbiz.

He dismissed the meddling

Macho Man's manager Sensational Sherri, then convincingly shook a finger at the Macho Man's body slapping. To the fans' delight, he was dramatic in his quick count of three that allowed the popular Hulk Hogan to retain his title.

The furious Savage lived up to his name, accusing Douglas of a short count, then slapping him across the face.

Perhaps the real "main event" was what followed. Hogan shoved the Macho Man toward Douglas, and the boxer kicked him cold — or so it appeared.

Hogan led Douglas around the ring with an arm outstretched in victory, as the adoring fans yelled "Buster Buster."

It was Douglas' first public appearance in a ring since upsetting Tyson on Feb 11 in Tokyo.

Tyson put his tail between his legs and backed out. "Douglas told viewers of the live NBC telecast. "They advertised the heavyweight boxing champion and that's me, not Mike Tyson."

"I didn't want to come. I wanted to see Mike Tyson," said Rick Adams. "He's tough. He lost one fight. Everyone's lost one fight."

No progress in baseball talks

NEW YORK, Feb 25. (AP) Baseball negotiators again made no progress yesterday in negotiations that have delayed the start of spring training for the US Major League baseball season.

The talks, which have hit a stumbling block on the issue of which players are eligible for salary arbitration, recessed until tomorrow.

Representatives of the team owners and players met for five hours in baseball commissioner Fay Vincent's office but said they spent only the last half hour talking about salary arbitration.



Ski jumping

The Austrian team of Markus Platzner (left), Klaus Suzenbacher (centre) and Guenter Csar placed first in the World Cup Nordic Combination team ski jumping event in Val di Fiemme, Italy, on Saturday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Wimbledon champion beats world No.1

Becker routs Lendl



Becker wants Lendl's No.1 ranking

STUTTGART, West Germany, Feb. 25, (Reuters): Wimbledon champion Boris Becker underlined his determination to knock Ivan Lendl off the top of world tennis by trouncing him 6-2 6-2 in the final of the million-dollar Stuttgart Classic ATP tournament today.

The world number two, who last month pulled out of a West German Davis Cup tie in order to prepare for his onslaught on Lendl's top ranking, gave a masterful display of his serve-and-volley game as he raced to victory in under an hour and a quarter.

The 22-year-old West German saw the contest as a measurement of how close he is to being able to supplant the 29-year-old Lendl from the top ranking he first held in 1983 when Becker was an unknown 15-year-old.

Becker's performance, his first title on West German soil, marked his fifth consecutive victory over the US-based Czechoslovak.

Lendl, who has not beaten the West German since 1987, must now be worried his days at the top are numbered.

He never looked to be in the match from the opening game when Becker first broke his service.

Lendl, who has already won two tournaments in Milan and Toronto this month after successfully defending his Australian Open title in January, said his recent packed playing schedule had not helped his game.

The Czechoslovak has crammed in a large number of events into the early part of the year so that he can take a break from the clay-court season in May and June to concentrate on Wimbledon, the grass-court Grand Slam title he has never won in a decade in the top ten.

"I have played too many tournaments and done too much travelling," he said. "I have had enough. But this defeat has not had an effect on me regarding the number one spot."

Lendl, who normally relies on a strong baseline game, came forward to the net a great deal to try to counter Becker's power and speed on the fast carpeted court.

But the West German held his strong serve well and constantly put Lendl's serve under pressure for key breaks in the first and seventh games of the first set and the third and seventh of the second.

"You have to remember that Lendl's strength is his consistency," Becker said. "He has reached the final of the last three tournaments he has played."

"We both dominate men's tennis. But I'm getting better and better. We will just have to see what happens this year."

Becker, who beat Lendl on his way to his third Wimbledon title last year, said the Czechoslovak was putting a lot of pressure on himself by fixing all his concentration on the Wimbledon tournament.

"On the one hand it is good that he can start early to practice on grass. But on the other he is putting so much pressure on himself for Wimbledon that I don't know what he will do if he doesn't win it," Becker said.

"It was very close last year at Wimbledon but he didn't lose because he could not play on grass. He lost because he could not stand the pressure."



Happy birthday, Alain

World Formula One champion, Alain Prost of France, celebrates his 35th birthday at a sky meeting of the Formula One drivers in the Italian resort of Cervinia on Saturday. Prost will be driving this season with Ferrari. He quit McLaren last year after a whole year of intense rivalry, mostly bitter, with Ayrton Senna. The latter was fined \$100,000 after an incident during the Japan Grand Prix last year for dangerous driving. Above: Prost blows out the candles on his cake. Right: Prost being congratulated by Prince Albert of Monaco. (Reuters wirephotos)



Milan go clear at top

Inter crush Napoli

ROME, Feb. 25, (Reuters): Napoli, floundering without an injured Diego Maradona, collapsed to a 3-1 defeat at Internazionale today as AC Milan went clear at the top of the Italian League after winning 4-0 at Roma.

Milan's inspirational Dutchman Marco van Basten scored twice to spearhead a resounding victory over sixth-placed Roma and pull the European champions two points clear of Napoli. Napoli, their Argentine captain left at home with back pains, grabbed the initiative early with a seventh-minute foray by Brazilian striker Careca who dodged defenders and goalkeeper Walter Zenga to hammer the ball home.

But Inter counter-attacked ruthlessly to overwhelm the visitors, who were top of the League for most of the first half of the season.

Napoli defender Ciro Ferrara blundered a minute into the second half to score an own goal as he fought off West German international Juergen Klinsmann. Six minutes later Klinsmann was back with a successful header from point-blank range.

Juventus	1	Genoa	1	Atalanta	26	10	9	7	28	26	29
Roma	0	AC Milan	4	Roma	26	10	9	7	32	34	29
Sampdoria	3	Florentina	0	Bologna	26	7	13	6	21	26	27
Udinese	1	Cesena	0	Lazio	26	6	12	8	27	24	24
				Bari	26	4	15	7	24	26	23
				Genoa	26	5	12	9	20	24	22
				Leone	26	8	6	12	21	36	22
				Florentina	26	5	11	10	33	35	21
				Udinese	26	5	10	11	28	41	20
				Cesena	26	5	9	12	20	31	19
				Cremone	26	4	10	12	25	37	18
				Verona	26	3	11	12	16	31	17
				Ascoli	26	2	12	12	15	31	16



Dutch soccer

Brazilian soccer star Romario (left) of PSV Eindhoven and FC Groningen's Jan van Dijk fight for the ball in a Dutch First Division match. The game, played yesterday ended in a 0-0 draw. (Reuters wirephoto)

Darcy shoots 12 under par for Dubai win

DUBAI, Feb. 25, (Reuters): Ireland's Eamonn Darcy rediscovered his appetite for golf yesterday with an emphatic victory in the Desert Classic.

The Ryder Cup international had been contemplating retirement after a poor season last year. But he immediately dismissed such thoughts after a closing 69 left him 12 under par on 276 and four shots clear of Briton David Feherty.

Fellow-Irishman Des Smyth shared third place two shots back with Spain's Severiano Ballesteros.

Darcy led throughout after a record-opening 64 at the Emirates Club to record his first victory since the 1987 Belgian Open and collect £45,825 (\$77,900).

"I lost a lot of interest in tournament golf last year and went home to Ireland for a four-month rest," he said. "But this has given me back my appetite. I proved I could still cope with the pressure and I'll scrap any retirement plans for the time being."

"The greatest satisfaction always comes from something you do yourself. I panicked a bit in the third round in the wind but today I had six birdies and played real solid."

Soviets thrash US

PALO ALTO, California, Feb. 25, (Reuters): The Soviet Union, despite missing a group of key players, thoroughly outplayed the United States national team 3-1 in a soccer friendly yesterday.

Vladimir Bessenov, Fedor Cherenkov and Oleg Protasov scored for the Soviets, and John Harkes netted the only US goal on a penalty kick in a game played before a crowd of 61,000 at Stanford Stadium.

Missing their foreign-based players and lacking stars like midfielders Igor Dobrolovsky and Alexei Mikhailichenko as well as captain Anatol Demanyenko because of injury, the Soviets overpowered their hosts and seldom lost control of the match.

They took a 1-0 lead in the 29th minute when Bessenov drilled a shot from a sharp angle past US goalie Tony Meola. Captain Oleg Kuznetsov started the play with a pass that Fedor Cherenkov dummed and then slipped to Bessenov.

Increased US pressure led to their goal. Luzny stopped Peter Vermes with a fierce tackle on the left side of the penalty area. American referee Vincent Mauro pointed to the spot and Harkes drove his kick under goalie Victor Chanov in the 42nd minute.

Just before the half, the Soviets took the lead for good. Bessenov drove a free kick from 22 yards into the defensive wall, but Cherenkov controlled the rebound and had time to line up a left-footed shot that tucked inside the far post.

Protasov, who came on at halftime, netted the third in the 68th minute on a side-footed pass from Andrei Zigmantovic.

The Soviets dominated most of the remaining time, although Paul Calligan, whose goal gave the US team their World Cup-clinching win in Trinidad last November, volleyed over the crossbar from point-blank range with six minutes left.

Andersen on target twice

BONN, Feb. 25, (Reuters): Norway's Joern Andersen became leading marksman in the West German Soccer Championship yesterday as the first full weekend of play since the winter break produced 30 goals.

Andersen was on target twice in Eintracht Frankfurt's 5-1 rout of VfB Stuttgart, a result which put them level on points with Bayern Munich at the head of the standings.

Andersen opened the scoring in the 27th minute and hit his second — his 12th of the season — moments after Fritz Walter equalised for Stuttgart just after the break.

Stefan Studer made it 3-1 and Dieter Eckstein added two more.

Results			
Waldhof	4	Kaiserslautern	0
Karlsruhe	2	Bayer L.	1
Hamburg	6	Bayer U.	0
Borussia M	4	Werder Bremen	0
Bochum	1	Fortuna	2
Eintracht F	5	VfB Stuttgart	1
Played on Friday:			
FC Homburg	0	St Pauli	2
Cologne	1	Bayern Munich	1

Wimbledon jinx still haunts Aston Villa

LONDON, Feb. 25, (Reuters): English soccer club Aston Villa should have enjoyed a relaxed Sunday with a five-foot lead in the English First Division.

Instead, they will spend the week ahead of their next League match at Coventry City next Sunday pondering what went wrong in a 3-0 home defeat to Wimbledon yesterday.

Villa, who had gone two points clear of Liverpool with a game in hand after beating Tottenham Hotspur in midweek, relived a past nightmare yesterday.

Wimbledon beat Villa three times last season, all 1-0 victories. Two of them were away including a Football Association Cup fourth round triumph.

Villa, winners of their last seven matches, won 2-0 in South London last November.

But Wimbledon returned to Villa Park yesterday to haunt a club who have surged from near-relegation last season to serious contenders for their first League title since 1981.

Aston Villa manager Graham Taylor said after yesterday's loss that his side may have paid Wimbledon too much respect.

"I felt that the players played almost as if they expected Wimbledon to produce something," he said.



Nicholas (left) scored the winner for Aberdeen.

"They were giving Wimbledon far too much respect. I think that happens now and again. Things

are built up sometimes about playing against Wimbledon.

"From the point when the penalty went in I was very disappointed. We probably had 20 minutes where we lost a lot of discipline and a lot of shape and we played like a beaten side."

Striker John Fashanu, back from injury for only his second League match of the year, shocked Villa with two goals in 12 minutes early in the second half, the first a penalty. Paul Miller added a third goal six minutes from time.

Wimbledon found a way past the cornerstone of Taylor's rebuilt side, a successful defensive trio of Derek Mountfield and two new signings this season, Dane Kent Nielsen and former Manchester United star Paul McGrath.

It was Mountfield who gave away the penalty, bringing down Fashanu after the striker had skillfully got past him.

"I was pleased with the way I got around Derek Mountfield before the penalty. Maybe if it had been Paul McGrath he would have caught me," Fashanu said.

Taylor was quick to put the defeat behind him.

"We are still two points clear of our nearest challengers. We will just have to wait and see," he said.

The story would surely have been different if England midfielder David Platt's fifth-minute penalty had not been saved by Wimbledon's Dutch goalkeeper Hans Segers.

Tottenham failed to take advantage of a day off for Villa's closest rivals Liverpool, Arsenal and Nottingham Forest, staying in fifth place after a 2-1 defeat at Derby County.

Burton beat Manchester United 1-0 at home with a first goal by defender Gareth Hall to move up to sixth place, also on 39 points but below Tottenham on goal difference.

Torquay won four Scottish Cup fourth round ties but three Premier Division sides made the quarter-finals.

Aberdeen, second in the Premier Division, were behind in First Division Morton at home for 53 minutes before recovering to win 2-1, former Scotland star Charlie Nicholas scoring the winner 13 minutes from time.

Aldridge gets two for Sociedad

BARCELONA, Spain, Feb. 25, (Reuters): Two goals by Irish international John Aldridge earned Real Sociedad a 2-2 draw at Barcelona in the Spanish Soccer Championship yesterday.

Aldridge, the Catalans' nightmare throughout, took his tally for the season to 12.

Barcelona were two goals ahead before Real Sociedad reacted. Julio Salinas scored from a centre by Aitor Beguiristain in the 31st minute then Juan Menchaca was responsible for a 52nd minute own goal.

Aldridge went into action three minutes later, heading a centre from Juan Goicoechea between the legs of Barcelona's international goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta. He beat an exhausted Barcelona defence in the 72nd minute and scored with his left foot.

The draw left Barcelona in third place with 33 points, nine behind Real Madrid, who meet last-placed Rayo Vallecano this evening.



John Aldridge

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